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ENGLAND v SWEDEN and AUSTRIA

SHOOT!

18p

14th JULY, 1979



BOB PAISLEY
(Liverpool)
and **GORDON LEE**
(Everton)
in our
BIG CITY
CROSSTALK

Action from Sweden/England in Stockholm
... Tony Currie (right) and Tore Cervin jump
for the ball.

Who will take over from SCOTLAND'S 'MR. GOALS'—JOE HARPER?

GARY OWEN WILL GIVE WEST BROM VALUE FOR MONEY

WEST Brom had to pay out £450,000 to entice midfielder Gary Owen away from Manchester City — but they can be certain they will get full value for their money.

Owen, nearly four years a professional at Maine Road, believes in giving "full time dedication to my club".

He certainly gave City great service and would have still been there but for the waves of discontent that hit that famous club.

The 21-year-old Owen will always be grateful for the help he received from the City coaches and the encouragement he got from manager Tony Book.

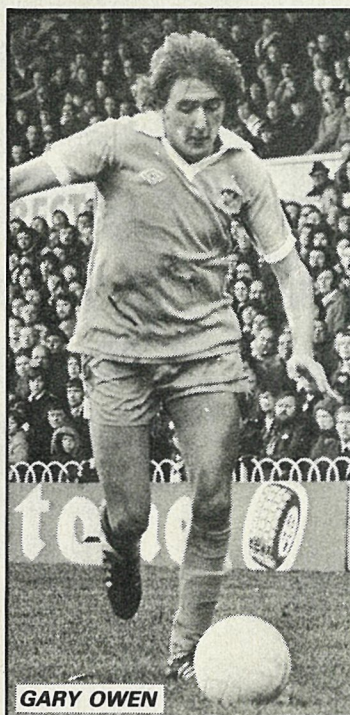
Tony said of Owen as a 17-year-

old: "Gary has got the talent and ability to reach the top."

The England Under-21 player, who had earlier won Youth honours for his country, has appeared as substitute for the England 'B' team and his dynamic midfield displays must put him in the reckoning in the not too far distant future for a full England place.

At one time it looked as if Owen would not leave the North of England and Leeds were showing an interest in him. But he should not regret a move to The Hawthorns.

It looks an extremely good move for him — and for the club who have bought a player who always believes in giving his best.



GARY OWEN

NEWS

Compiled by
Peter Stewart



DESK

JOCK Wallace has been manager of Leicester City for a season but it looks as if his heart is still in the Highlands. After paying Elgin City £20,000 for midfielder Ian Wilson towards the end of the season, Wallace swooped again to sign Gilbert Skinner, Ross County's 16-year-old full-back and son of the club's vice-chairman.

Wallace will be back North in October — when his side play Elgin in the other part of Wilson's transfer deal.

RUSSIANS PRAISE CLOUGHIE

BRIAN Clough has almost as many fans in the Soviet Union as Elton John.

Moscow Radio heaped praise on Nottingham Forest's manager after his club had lifted the European Cup against Malmö.

A sports commentator described

the progress of Forest as a "minor miracle".

He went on: "How many times do we hear our leading managers say that we have not enough world class players and so success is not possible?"

"Clough knew psychologically how to re-arm his footballers. He forced them to believe in themselves and not give in," the commentator said.

TWO of Sligo Rovers' English born players, Chris Rutherford and Graham Fox, have taken up Gaelic Football for the summer and the pair are reported to be doing well at the ancient Irish game.

THE ubiquitous Duncan McKenzie (Blackburn) and the swarthy Alex Sabella (Sheffield United) have been hailed as two of the most skilful and creative men in the English game — what a painful thought it is that both will be parading those skills in the Third Division next season.

NORTHERN Ireland, their European Championship hopes virtually dashed following their 4-0 end-of-term Copenhagen defeat by Denmark, will still be kept busy in the summer of 1980.

The Irish F.A., itself 100-years-old next year, will take part in an international tournament to celebrate the centenary of the Australian F.A. Incidentally, it will be Northern Ireland's first-ever international jaunt "Down Under".

THERE were some dramatic ends to matches in the League last season but surely none as poignant on a personal note as that achieved by Bristol Rovers full-back Peter Aitken at Cambridge United. He was booked in the second minute of injury time, then scored an equaliser in the 93rd!

KEITH Stride, once watched Aston Villa from the Holte End stand at Villa Park. Now he has taken over as the club's new secretary in succession to Alan Bennett.

Stride has been with Villa for the past seven years as assistant to Bennett, who has taken up an appointment with Leicester City.

'The time was right for me to go'

JOHNNY Giles wound-up his international career for the Republic of Ireland against Argentina in Dublin with these words: "I have always got out before I was told to go."

"I did it with Manchester United, Leeds and West Bromwich Albion and now I've done it again," he said.

How better to end your international career than by playing against the World Champions. The Republic of Ireland drew 0-0, one of the most credit-

able performances by Giles in his 59 appearances in Republican green.

"What I will miss most is the pre-match build-up, but 20 years in football is a long time. I feel a little sad but I'm also relieved. I did what I had to do and think I've always done it well."

"We have a lot of good midfield players at the moment, so I won't be badly missed."

Modest words from one of the finest distributors of a ball in world soccer.

We shall miss you, Johnny.



AWAY GOALS

FIRST Division defences beware. Peter Nicholas, one of the stars in Crystal Palace's Second Division Championship success, is a midfielder player who doesn't score many goals — but he loves getting the vital ones away from home.

Newport-born Nicholas scored four goals last term, three of them in the League, including one in the 3-0 success at Millwall and also the only goal at Luton. And to top that he scored in Wales' 2-0 victory in Malta when making his full international debut.

SCOTTISH winger Lammie Robertson's clubs have included Burnley, Bury, Brighton and Hove, and, now, Bradford City. Does it remind you that another Scot striker Bill Stark built up an even more remarkable alliterative array in the 60's? He was allied to Celtic, Crewe, Carlisle, Colchester, Corby and Chesterfield.

THE Buckley pair may not be exactly top-line stars, yet what other pair of brothers, past or present, have ever both figured in six-figures transfers? Left-back Steve cost Derby County £166,000 from Luton Town in January last year; Birmingham City paid Walsall £200,000 for striker Alan last October.

IRISH League club side Distillery, homeless for six years since their Belfast headquarters was destroyed by fire, now find themselves facing expulsion from the Irish League.

And it could all depend whether a new ground can be completed in time for next season's kick-off.

Distillery's chairman, Harry Caldwell, said that work should be completed by August or September.

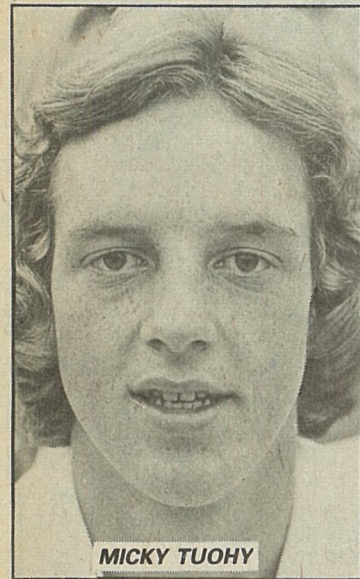
Now everything depends on the attitude of the Irish League, who will decide whether or not bottom of the table Distillery, they finished seven points from 22 matches, should stay in senior football.

A SURPRISE visitor to Dublin in May was Pele. The former Brazilian star flew in for a couple of days to promote the Eire v. Argentina game, part of the proceeds of which went to UNICEF.

COVENTRY LIKE O'LEARY

SHAMROCK Rovers star Pierce O'Leary could become the first League of Ireland star to join an English club for a six figure fee. Coventry City are keen to sign the younger brother of Arsenal's David.

Forced to sell



MICKY TUOHY

MICKY TUOHY, a 23-year-old striker, has been signed by Southend United because his old club, Redditch United, were facing a court order to repay a £10,000 loan to the local development corporation.

Redditch obtained £15,000 for Tuohy, who has been with the Worcestershire club for four seasons.

If Tuohy, who once had a spell with Walsall, joins another Football League club, Redditch will receive 20 per cent of the transfer fee.

FERGIE HITS FAROES

COVENTRY City's reputation as one of the most progressive clubs in the country was further underlined recently when The Sky Blues became the first Football League club to visit the Faroe Islands.

City flew their to take on a team of locals and the islanders turned up literally in their boatloads to see the Midlanders romp to a 6-0 win, aided by a Mick Ferguson hat-trick.

BANNON GOES DOWN UNDER



CHELSEA's Eamonn Bannon (left) joined his brothers Vincent and Gerry in Australia where he played alongside them for Frankston, in the National League, for one month during the close season.

With Danny Blanchflower's permission, Eamonn flew straight to Australia after his game for Scotland's Under-21 squad against Norway in which he scored the opening goal for the Scots.

The Australian trip fulfilled a lifetime ambition for the Edinburgh youngster who has always wanted to play with his brothers.

NEWCASTLE United and Middlesbrough have both increased their season ticket prices. Newcastle fans will have to pay £45 for a centre stand ticket to watch Second Division football. Middlesbrough will offer First Division entertainment for a top price of £42.

FACTastic

DENIS Law is the only British player to score hat-tricks in all three European club competitions. The fair-haired Scot's remarkable performance was achieved during his career with Manchester United — against Willem and Sporting Lisbon in the Cup-Winners' Cup 1963-64; Djurgardens (Sweden) in the 1964-65 Fairs Cup; and Waterford in the 1968-69 European Cup. In that match Denis hit all three United goals in the first-leg and four of their seven in the second-leg.

SUPER STRIKER MAC

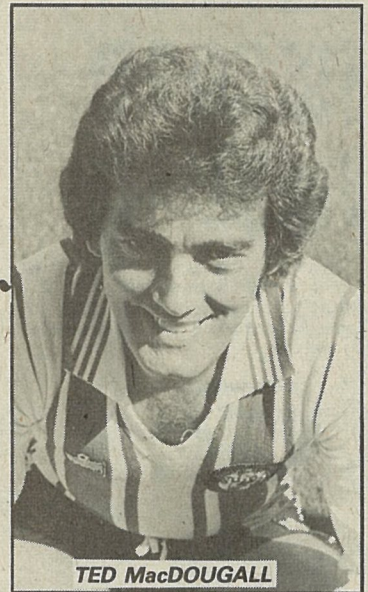
TED MacDOUGALL already figures in the record books with his nine goals in an F.A. Cup-tie against Margate, but he could yet end up with an even more impressive entry.

He's close to 250 League goals — the top scorer in the game — and if he can keep it up he stands a great chance of becoming the top scoring Scot of all time in the Football League.

The record has been held for a few decades by Hughie Gallacher with 296 goals.



THIS beautiful handmade full lead crystal football was presented to Stoke City to mark their return to the First Division by the famous Royal Doulton Tableware company.



TED MacDOUGALL

TOTTENHAM'S GREAT KIDS

TOTTENHAM Hotspur have some fine prospects in their youth team.

The team won the South East Counties League Division in 1978-79 for the first time since 1973.

The side, run by former Spurs defender Ron Henry, also won the International Tournament staged in Dusseldorf at Easter.

The South East Counties is generally accepted as the strongest youth League in the country.

NOW PLAYERS CAN SEE MORE CLEARLY

NAME the former Brazilian World Cup ace who wears soft contact lenses for poor eyesight?

The chances of coming up with the right answer at the first attempt are remote to say the least, for the player with the defective vision is the last person most football fans would expect to wear such things.

Give up? Allow me to put you out of your misery. It's none other than the Greatest himself, Pele.

Bausch & Lomb Softlens Division tell me that Pele is the most celebrated of a growing number of top sportsmen and women who have chosen to wear soft contact lenses.

"They weigh less than a teardrop and are catching on at all levels of football and other sports," says Pamela Willson, Bausch & Lomb's attractive marketing executive.

"Unlike spectacles, soft contact lenses give excellent peripheral vision, do not slide down the wearer's nose or mist up in poor weather conditions.

"Another advantage of soft contact lenses is that they can be worn whilst playing most sports. Because the lens fits closely to the eye floating on its tears, there is little danger of the lens being popped out by blinking or irritated from wind and blowing dust.

"Many footballers with failing eyesight complain of not seeing the ball properly under floodlights. A soft lens eliminates that problem — as Pele has discovered for himself."

NOBBY

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NEW



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Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1978 F.A. CUP FINAL
Ipswich v. Arsenal
- 1978 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nottingham Forest v. Liverpool
- 1977 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Liverpool v. Borussia MGB
- 1977 BATTLE OF THE GIANTS
Manchester Utd v. Liverpool
- 1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick
- 1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1976 FA CUP FINAL
Super Saints!
- 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
- 1976 KINGS OF SCOTLAND
Rangers v. Hearts
- 1975 F.A. CUP FINAL
Hail To The Hammers!
- 1975 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Viva The Villa!
- 1974 F.A. CUP FINAL
Liverpool's Cup
- 1974 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wonderful Wolves!
- 1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
- 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
- 1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
- 1972 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Salute to Stoke!
- 1971 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Liverpool
- 1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
Chelsea v. R. Madrid
- 1971 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Aston Villa
- 1970 F.A. CUP FINAL
Chelsea's Cup
- 1966/70 WORLD CUP
Finals & Semi-Finals
- 1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Man. Utd. v. Benfica
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Nottingham Forest 3, Southampton 2

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- 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1 100ft
- 1969 Man. City 1, Leicester 0 100ft
- 1968 WBA 1, Everton 0 200ft
- 1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1 200ft
- 1966 Everton 3, Sheffield Wed. 2 300ft
- 1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1 200ft
- 1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2 200ft
- 1963 Man. Utd 3, Leicester 1 200ft
- 1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1 100ft
- 1960 Wolves 3, Blackburn 0 100ft
- 1959 Nott'ham F. 2, Luton 1 100ft
- 1958 Bolton 2, Man. Utd. 0 100ft
- 1957 Aston Villa 2, Man. Utd. 1 100ft
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- *1970 Brazil 4, Italy 1 200ft
- *1970 Italy 4, W. Germany 3 200ft
- *1970 England 2, W. Germany 3 200ft
- *1966 England 4, W. Germany 2 200ft & 400ft
Also colour sound 200ft
- 1966 England 2, Portugal 1 200ft
- 1966 Hungary 3, Brazil 1 200ft
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EUROPEAN CUP

- *1978 Liverpool 1, Bruges 0 200ft/400ft
Also 400ft Col SOUND £35.00
- *1977 Liverpool 3, Borussia MGB 1 200ft/300ft
Also 200ft col SOUND £18.30
- *1976 B. Munich 1, St. Etienne 0 200ft/400ft
also 400ft b/w and colour sound
- *1975 B. Munich 2, Leeds 0 150ft
- 1972 Ajax 2, Inter Milan 0 200ft
- 1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0 100ft
- 1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1 200ft
- 1968 Man. Utd. 4, Benfica 1 200ft/400ft
Also b/w SOUND £11.15
- 1968 Man. Utd. 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final) 200ft
- 1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1 200ft/400ft
- 1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1 200ft
- 1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1 200ft
- 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3 200ft/400ft

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS

- 1963 Spurs 5, At. Madrid 1 200ft
- 1965 West Ham 2, TSV Munich 0 200ft

FOOTBALL LEAGUE CUP

- *1978 Nott'ham F. 1, Liverpool 0 200ft
Also col SOUND £18.30
- *1977 Aston V. 3, Everton 2 200ft
Also col SOUND £18.30
- *1976 Man. City 2, Newcastle 1 200ft
- *1975 Aston Villa 1, Norwich 0 100ft
- *1974 Wolves 2, Man. City 1 100ft
- 1973 Spurs 1, Norwich 0 100ft
- 1972 Stoke 2, Chelsea 1 200ft
- 1971 Spurs 2, Aston V. 0 50ft
- 1967 Q.P.R. 3, W.B.A. 2 200ft

NEW 8mm RELEASE 1979 F.A. CUP FINAL Arsenal 3, Manchester United 2

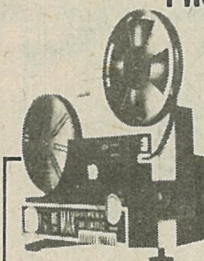
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- *1976 Czech 7, W. Germany 5 400ft
Also b/w & col SOUND 400ft

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1968 Newcastle 3, Man. City 4 200ft

INTERNATIONALS

- *1977 Scotland 2, England 1 400ft
also 400ft col SOUND
- *1977 England 2, Italy 0 200ft
also 200ft col SOUND
- *1977 England 0, Holland 2 200ft/400ft
Also 200ft/400ft col SOUND
- 1976 Scotland 2, England 1 200ft/400ft
also 400ft b/w SOUND
- 1975 England 5, Scotland 1 200ft
also 400ft b/w SOUND
- 1969 England 4, Scotland 1 200ft
- 1967 Scotland 3, England 2 400ft
- 1953 Hungary 6, England 3 100ft
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- 1976 Rangers 3, Hearts 1 200ft/400ft
Also 400ft B/W SOUND
- *1973 Rangers 3, Celtic 2 200ft
- *1972 Celtic 6, Hibs 1 100ft

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England at home in Seattle

MIKE England, former Wales, Spurs and Cardiff defender, has rejected an offer to take over as player-coach of San Jose Earthquakes.

England has made his home in Seattle, where he plays for the Sounders. His two sons are settled in school there and he has made a successful career off the field, selling real estate.

If those reasons weren't enough to keep him put, the Earthquakes record would be enough to make sure he didn't move to California.

They have the lowest number of points in the whole NASL — just 31 after two wins in 14 games.

SOCCER in the STATES



Best's back

GEORGE Best — yawn, yawn — went missing for a week recently. Fort Lauderdale spokesman Andy Furman said: "I think the coach wants to suspend him but he can't find him to do so."

Best finally showed up, saying he'd gone away to sort out 'personal problems.'

One of the those is the absence of his wife Angela, who is on tour with pop singer Cher. "She's with Cher at Lake Tahoe," said Best. "As long as I behave, things will be all right."

Strikers coach Ron Newman seemed to understand. He said: "Other players throw chairs when they get mad. Georgie goes into solitude."

Hat-trick for Daly

IN the absence of Mike Flanagan, Gerry Daly has decided to take over some of the goalscoring responsibilities for New England Tea Men.

Daly scored a hat-trick against California in his team's 6-1 win and made the other three goals — two of them from Leicester's Keith Weller.



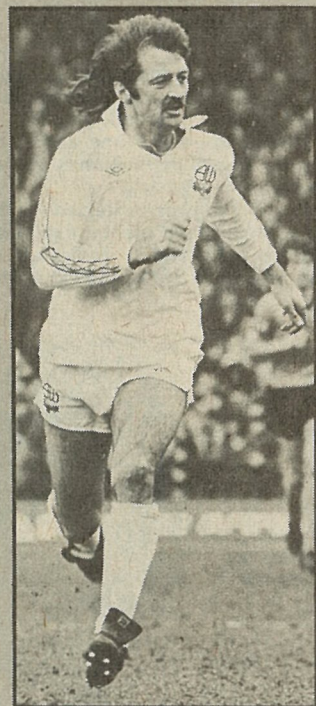
PAUL Cannell, former Newcastle striker, was another hat-trick man when Washington Diplomats came back from a 0-2 half-time score to win 3-2 in overtime.

The game was played in a down-pour and afterwards, Cannell said: "I liked it out there today. It was like English conditions. The only thing was, there was one section of the field where I could have caught trout."

Relaxed Day

GRAHAM DAY (above right) is enjoying himself in Portland, now that he's signed a permanent con-

SUPPORTING ROLE FOR WORTHINGTON



DESPITE disappointing crowds of just over 4,000 this season, Frank Worthington is enjoying playing for Philadelphia Fury.

The Bolton striker had fancied trying American soccer for a long while, and he has not been disappointed.

He says: "I thought I was going to enjoy it out here and I have. So far, it's lived up to all my expectations. All I need now is for the team to do a bit better and to get a few more people in."

"It took me a while to get used to the Astro Turf but I think I'm beginning to adjust now. It's not very easy to chip on it because your feet seem to sink in."

Worthington, the First Division's top scorer last season, is playing more of a supporting role on this side of the Atlantic.

Although he has scored four goals, he spends most of his time making them for Davie Robb, former Aberdeen and Norwich striker. Robb has got ten goals so far, thanks to the help of his new partner up-front.

Says Worthington: "It's a bit like my partnership with Alan Gowling at Bolton. It doesn't matter who

gets the goals as long as one of us does."

"From what I've seen of the States, I could easily see myself settling here. I'm a bit worried about what might happen now that they are putting an end to the loan system."

"I'll definitely be going back to Bolton for next season, but I'd hoped to come out here again next summer. I'll just have to see what happens."

Worthington is also looking forward to having his daughter, Kim, visit him for a few weeks' holiday later in the summer.

Fury are struggling to keep up with the two leaders in the American Conference's Eastern Division and coach Marko Valok has decided it's time for tough action to sort his players out.

The Yugoslav has drawn up a set of rules — and fines for breaking them — that cover almost three foolscap pages.

One of the rules demands that a player gives total effort on the field and another, that he mustn't drink any alcohol 48 hours before a game. Most penalties are around the £15 mark.

tract with the Timbers.

The 26-year-old centre-half agreed to join his former Bristol Rovers boss Don Megson in March and says: "I've always felt more relaxed and comfortable in Portland. That's probably why I play better here."

Unfortunately, Day hasn't been quite tough enough in the Timbers' back four this season, judging by their results. The side have let in 35 goals in 15 games, the second worst in the League.



Crowds flock to see Cruyff

JOHAN Cruyff continues to attract the fans in Los Angeles. The Dutchman has increased the previous record attendance in each of his

three home games so far.

There were 9,000 for his first game, 16,000 for his second, and just over 17,000 for the Aztecs' local derby against California Surf.

If the trend continues, the Aztecs will easily reach their target of 20,000-25,000 attendances before the end of the season. In the meantime, they've got to find a way of recouping their money for Cruyff.

One method is the extensive tour the Los Angeles club plan to make at the end of the season. Chairman Alan Rothenberg quipped: "We'll get even with the money from our international tour. Of course, the tour may have to go on for seven or eight years."

are going to repeat their success in the American Conference's Central Division.

The Express, clear winners of the Division last summer, are currently 17 points behind second-placed Chicago and 43 behind leaders Houston, one of the surprises of the season.

After his tough season in Britain, Francis won't relish trying to pull the Express round single-handed again, which is virtually what happened last summer.

But if Detroit can just put a few wins together, they will have a great chance of going through to the playoffs as one of the wild card teams.



Express falling behind

TREVOR Francis will have to turn on a lot of magic if Detroit Express

AT the half-way stage, the Cosmos were the most successful NASL side, followed by Tampa Bay and Houston Hurricane. League tables below.

NASL standings

National Conference							American Conference								
Eastern Division							Eastern Division								
	GP	W	L	GF	GA	BP	Pts		GP	W	L	GF	GA	BP	Pts
New York	15	12	3	38	25	36	108	Tampa Bay	16	12	4	32	20	28	100
Washington	16	10	6	36	23	31	91	Ft. Lauderdale	14	8	6	34	21	28	76
Toronto	17	8	9	26	33	26	74	Philadelphia	16	5	11	27	30	27	57
Rochester	14	6	8	19	28	19	55	New England	17	6	11	22	32	19	55
Central Division							Central Division								
Minnesota	16	11	5	33	25	32	97	Houston	15	12	3	30	22	27	99
Tulsa	16	8	8	37	33	32	80	Chicago	14	9	5	33	24	29	83
Dallas	15	9	6	24	20	24	78	Detroit	16	6	10	24	25	20	56
Atlanta	15	4	11	27	41	23	47	Memphis	16	3	13	17	34	17	35
Western Division							Western Division								
Los Angeles	14	10	4	30	20	26	86	San Diego	17	8	9	28	30	25	73
Vancouver	15	10	5	27	16	26	86	California	17	7	10	24	30	22	64
Portland	15	7	8	27	35	25	67	Edmonton	16	5	11	19	36	19	49
Seattle	14	7	7	25	20	23	65	San Jose	14	2	12	19	34	19	31

Total Points: Win — 6 Pts., Defeat — 0 Pts. Bonus Points: one point is awarded for each goal scored up to a maximum of three per team per game.

THIS YEAR's England/Scotland fixture at Wembley could well be the last.

The disgraceful behaviour of a few hundred of the 60,000 odd of Scottish supporters that made the trip South is the reason.

Those so-called fans terrorised parts of London. I've no time for these louts, neither have any of the other players or officials.

For a few days every two years, people South of Watford dread the Tartan Invasion, although to my mind they've only had cause for concern since 1977 when Scotland beat England and the Wembley pitch was torn up.

Before then Scottish supporters were tolerated, looked upon as colourful and amusing characters. Almost one of the tourist sights of the capital.

That attitude by the public has changed now and the future of this international of internationals is in real danger.

I believe it would be a tragedy if the match was banned. It's every Scottish player's ambition to appear at the most famous soccer stadium in the world.

And the majority of honest to goodness fans throughout the whole country look forward to this game. Why deprive them of the pleasure?

The root of the problem is, of

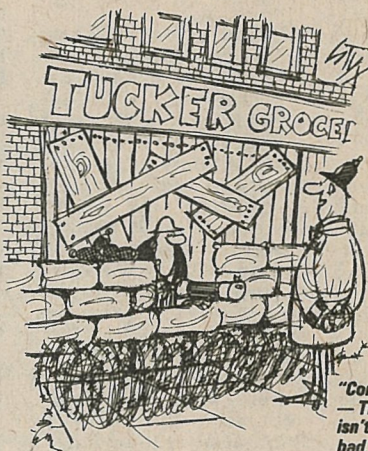
public in Scotland. But they still fill two-thirds of Wembley.

I just haven't a clue how to curb these idiots who bring disgrace to themselves (not that it bothers them) and the whole of Scotland.

I sometimes wonder just how many of them come from Glasgow, or even live in Scotland.

I know of one fan who doesn't... the crop-haired lad who managed to get on the pitch during the game and gave four or five policemen a real run around before he was stopped and led away.

Draped in tartan scarf, and with very few English fans at Wembley, it



he managed to breach the wire fencing and the police cordon.

Whether his intentions were harmless or not, that one Englishman did more to contribute to Scotland's eventual defeat than the 11 that manager Ron Greenwood had chosen.

Before his intervention Scotland were looking forward to going off at half-time leading 1-0.

Stopped

We were well in control... until the referee stopped play to have that intruder removed.

During the extra-time added on for the delay, Peter Barnes scored an equalising goal.

Kenny Dalglish protested to the ref as we trooped off at the interval, but he quite rightly indicated he had no option but to add extra-time

due to the stoppage.

England got on top in the second-half and ran out deserved 3-1 winners. But I wonder what the result would have been but for that Everton fan.

Naturally I was disappointed with Scotland's overall performances in the British Championship. Just two points, thanks to a win over Northern Ireland, is hardly confidence-boosting.

Excuses? Quite simply we just weren't good enough. That, plus injuries to squad members originally chosen, and the fact manager Jock Stein couldn't select any players from Forest and Rangers as they were involved in the European and Scottish Cup Finals.

The latter were also unavailable for the match against World Champions Argentina at Hampden Park on June 2nd.

'The invader who helped defeat Scotland'

course, drink. But how do you stop these people getting hold of the stuff is another matter.

There has been a call to ban the sale of tickets in Glasgow. But the fans will get hold of them somehow.

As it stands at the moment only a very small percentage of the 100,000 tickets is available to the general

was understandable he was branded a Scot.

Well, that's not so! We discovered later that he was an Everton supporter from Liverpool and he wanted to congratulate Goodison 'keeper George Wood on his selection for the Scotland team.

My first thoughts when I saw him on the pitch was how on earth had



my soccer world
**GORDON
McQUEEN**

At least it gave Jock Stein the opportunity to blood inexperienced players in the British Championship and this prestige friendly. He introduced George Wood, Frank McGarvey, Paul Hegarty, Iain Munro, John Wark and George Burley.

I didn't play against Argentina because, as you know, a virus infection laid me low after the England game.

Not that I would have made much difference as Argentina tore Scotland to shreds.

On that performance they are the best international team I've seen for a long time and would probably have beaten anyone.

After a bright start, we were humiliated by the South Americans, especially their new star, 18-year-old Diego Maradona.

He had the whole of Hampden captivated by his incredible skills. He scored one of Argentina's three goals and looked another Pele in the making. Yes, he's that good.

It's a shame the TV cameras weren't there to capture action of the whole match for the millions of soccer fans at home. I understand there was a dispute at the BBC.

Kenny Dalglish, hurt by the harsh criticism of the fans at Hampden, was the hero for Scotland in our crucial European Championship victory over Norway in Oslo.

At last, Forest players Archie Gemmill, John Robertson and Kenny Burns were available, so Jock Stein was able to field his strongest team for sometime.

As expected Norway put us under pressure early on, but our three-goal burst killed off any chance they had of beating us.

Archie Gemmill, whose passing had caused the Norwegians so many problems, made the first goal when he found Kenny Dalglish on the right.

Kenny's centre was shot home by Joe Jordan from about two yards.

Encouraged by that goal, Scotland mounted another series of attacks and added a second six minutes later.

Kenny Dalglish, looking world-class, took a pass from George Burley and completely left Grondalem for dead to hammer a great shot past the diving Jacobson.

John Robertson, the best winger in Britain, scored a third just before half-time. Again it was the result of a good build-up by Scotland.

Aas failed to cut out Iain Munro's cross and John slipped the easiest of goals past the stranded 'keeper.

Goal Four . . . was scored by yours truly. I went up for a Robertson corner and headed home in off the upright.

So a convincing win for a Scotland side whose morale was at rock bottom after the embarrassment caused by the Argentinians.

We are now third in Group Two behind Austria and the overwhelming favourites Portugal.

Struggle

There's no use kidding ourselves, Scotland have a tremendous struggle to reach the European Championship Finals in Italy next year.

But it's not impossible. Scotland have made a habit of coming through just at the right time — as the last two World Cups have proved. And with three home games and one away, who knows!

Whatever happens over the next few months, Scottish fans must be patient.

Jock Stein is the right man for the job and is steadily building a squad capable of reaching a hat-trick of World Cup Finals in 1982.

Finally . . . I'd like to congratulate Kenny Dalglish for being voted SHOOT's Most Exciting English League Player of the Year for 1978-79.

The trophy will look well alongside his Footballer of the Year award.

Also best wishes to Andy Ritchie of Morton for being chosen as the Scottish League winner.

Back in two weeks . . .

Egon Moore

GOAL~LINES

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When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Ian Shelton, of Wolverhampton, who wins our Special Prize of £3. He writes:

THE TRUTH ABOUT ENGLAND

ENGLAND'S disappointing results against Sweden and Austria underlined two basic truths: the season is far too long, and players and fans are stale by the beginning of June. Also . . . Ron Greenwood is still a long way off fashioning an England team fit to rank with the great England sides I remember, of the 40's and early 50's.

However, at least our national team is playing more attractively than the Wingless Wonders who had all the luck going in winning the '66 World Cup.

If Bob Latchford could manage to come good, or some other big, strong striker be found, the situation could be more hopeful.

● England may not be world beaters, but there isn't a European country head and shoulders above the rest. At the moment, five or six appear to be on a par, all having good and bad results. Greenwood has given England fans a reasonably successful and attractive team, something Don Revie couldn't manage.

Don't forget Shrewsbury

READERS of SHOOT might be interested to know Shrewsbury Town are Third Division Champions, not Watford or Swansea. They have also won the Welsh Cup for the second time in three years and reached the Sixth Round of the F.A. Cup.

Graham Turner was named Bell's Third Division Manager of the Year and the *Sunday People's* award for Third Division Player of the Year went to Paul Maguire.

However, as far as the majority of papers and magazines are concerned, these achievements hardly warrant a mention.

ANDREW & CLARE GRIFFITHS, CHURCH STRETTON.

● Graham Turner has done extremely well, carrying on the good work of Richie Barker who moved on to Wolves. I just hope that Shrewsbury, as a small club, can compete in Division Two.

Another honour . . .

NO prizes for guessing who were featured on BBC's Match of the Day the most last season. Liverpool won this honour with nine appearances, winning seven.

They were followed by Arsenal (eight), the two Manchester clubs (seven) and the rather unlikely trio

of Spurs, Bristol City and Ipswich (six).

No place for Forest, West Brom, or the only side to defeat Liverpool in front of the BBC cameras — Everton.

There were 166 goals shown, with Ipswich grabbing the most in one game with their 5-1 win over Chelsea.

DAVID NEEDHAM, ROMFORD.

● Is there NO end to the honours that Liverpool won in 1978/79!



BOB LATCHFORD

Neutral?

REPORTERS are supposed to be neutral, but a BBC commentator showed his allegiance to Rangers when, after Alex MacDonald had scored against Aberdeen in the Scottish League Cup Final, he said . . . "We have equalised!"

JOHN DAVIDSON, PERTH.

● If he's reading this perhaps he'll go red with embarrassment . . . or would it be blue!

Cruel

HOW could the Sunderland directors be so cruel to Billy Elliott? He came within a whisker of winning promotion for the club and all he gets in return is a slap in the face. When he took over in December, Sunderland were in the middle of Division Two. He worked wonders to very nearly win promotion and I wish him luck at Darlington.

STEPHEN ALLEN, WEMBLEY.

● Who'd be a manager? A few days after SHOOT interviewed Len Walker, Darlington's manager (see pages 26-27), Len was sacked and Billy got the job.



Gordon (number 5) outjumps the Norway defence to head in Scotland's fourth in their recent European Championship tie.

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BIG CITY CROSSTALK MASTERS OF MERSEYSIDE



'Everton will be title challengers again next season'
BOB PAISLEY

PAISLEY: You certainly put some pressure on Liverpool last season at different times, and I well recall Gordon, that Everton briefly topped the League table at one point.

LEE: Yes Bob, but once again it was Liverpool who proved they had the consistency to win the title. You mentioned pressure. I can say without fear of contradiction that your team always puts pressure on mine through lifting trophies in this city we share.

PAISLEY: Yes Gordon, but a team isn't built in a day, as you know. And as one manager to another, I would like to say that you've done a sound job since your arrival at Goodison. The supports of a house have to be completed before the roof can be put on, and you've established the basis for a side which you can look to as title-challengers again next season.

LEE: The right blend is what managers seek most, and obviously Liverpool have found it. Their results for a decade prove the point. I believe that the attitude of the players is of major importance, and the men in a team must be a mixture of skill and dedication. A side full of skilful players without character won't go very far, and neither will a side composed of players with character but lacking in skill.

PAISLEY: I think that complete honesty with the players at all times is essential in our job. If a manager has a different story for different players, he is going to have trouble in trying to remember what he said to who. Tell the truth and there are no complications.

LEE: I respect honesty, also holding the view that there is nothing wrong with criticism as long as it is fair and constructive. All I ask is that my players realise that football is a team game, and each man is there to assist the other.

PAISLEY: We encourage the team feeling at Anfield as against the emphasis on the individual. Kenny Dalglish and Graeme Souness can show individual touches, for example, but overall they are playing for Liverpool and make

FORTY-four thousand spectators filed through the turnstiles at Goodison Park on October 13th, 1894 for the first Everton-Liverpool derby game.

Since then, generations of soccer loving families have shouted themselves hoarse at the epic encounters between Merseyside's two giants.

The games have never drawn fewer than 50,000 fans in the 1970's whether played at Anfield or Goodison.

Liverpool have held a stranglehold on the League and Cup encounters since the 1969-70 season, winning 11 times, to Everton's three victories with nine drawn.

But Everton proved last season they pose a serious threat to Liverpool's continued supremacy. They beat Liverpool 1-0 at Goodison and then held the mighty Reds to a 1-1 draw at Anfield.

Now, the two teams are set to renew their rivalry. Who will hold the trump card on Merseyside in 1979-80?

Everton and Liverpool managers Gordon Lee and Bob Paisley examine the prospects...



'Yes, but we need two new players to overtake Liverpool'
GORDON LEE

out the fear of suspension.

LEE: No club likes to lose the services of a valuable player. This is one of the reasons that I'm pleased that English clubs won't be loaning players to American clubs at the end of next season. If the Americans buy one of our players, that is different, but I don't see why they should have the right to borrow an English player, any more than I could expect to borrow Kenny Dalglish for three months.

PAISLEY: I'm certainly against allowing Liverpool players, who will be needed at the beginning of a season, going to the United States, and returning to England in September after missing important matches at the start of the new season. Liverpool did let Ian Callaghan and Tommy Smith go to America near the end of their careers at Anfield, but this was partly a bonus to them following the valuable years of service they had given to Liverpool. Also, when a player nears the veteran stage, close season football can be good for him. When he is over 30, it's hard for him to recapture peak fitness if he is out of the game for more than two months.

LEE: In another few weeks, the 1979-80 season will be under way. And as well as hoping Everton will compete strongly in the League, I shall bear in mind one lesson we've learned in European competition — not to concede goals at home.

PAISLEY: I thought Nottingham Forest proved they have learned how to play against the Continentals by winning the European Cup. There was no way that Forest's game against Malmo in the Final would turn out to be attractive to watch, but Forest did all that was expected of them. In the new season, we'll be making another bid for the League title and the other trophies. One of my main problems will be to select a team out of an 18-man squad and keep everybody happy. Meanwhile, best of luck to you, Gordon.

LEE: And to you Bob — also, Merseyside. I hope it's a good year for both clubs.



Liverpool's Emlyn Hughes (right) clears from Bob Latchford of Everton during a Merseyside confrontation.

their contribution for the good of the team as a whole. And speaking of team effort, Everton injected enough of this into their style last season to make them very difficult to beat. In fact, in our local "derbies," you took three points out of four from Liverpool in 1978-79.

LEE: True. But to keep on challenging Liverpool, and eventually overtake them, I shall be after one or two new players who I hope can bring about the improvement I seek. I know we've come close to success in League and Cup competitions in recent seasons, yet I prefer to do better than to finish with a near-miss — I want us to come out on top.

PAISLEY: It gave me a lot of pleasure when Liverpool finished on top last season, not just because we were Champions again, but because we conceded so few goals and at the same time scored more than 80 in the League. I was happy, too, with the behaviour of our players on the field, where they are advised to keep out of trouble as much as possible. If a player has piled up points through being booked, he is inclined to be ultra-careful when he nears the maximum number of points. This caution can result in him losing a yard in pace. A player is far more useful to the side when he concentrates on his game with-

THE daunting prospect of Third Division football at Ewood Park, Blackburn, next season has cast an even darker shadow over the famous Lancashire club than the one which has shrouded Rovers since they crashed out of the First Division in 1966.

Blackburn's last Third Division stint lasted from 1971 until they lifted the Championship in 1975. But the hoped-for climb back to former status proved no more than a dream. And now, after months of struggle, Rovers are back to square one.

Clearly, Rovers need to make a fresh start under a strong, determined manager. But when John Pickering's short-lived attempt to stop the rot ended with his losing the job, Rovers fans began to wonder just where their club was going to find a man willing to undertake so tough a task.

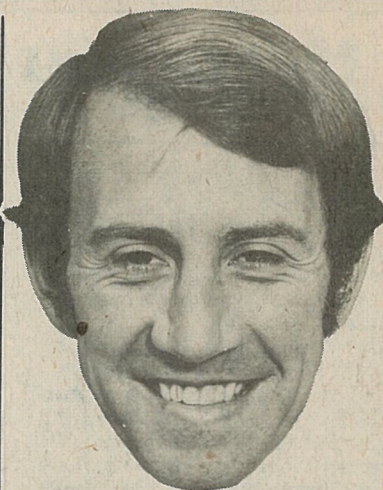
Incredibly, Rovers found him just as he was poised to step back into a playing career in the First Division. The man — Howard Kendall. His pedigree — first-class. His job — player-manager.

It is rather ironic that as Rovers were slipping out of the Second Division and into the Third, Kendall was playing a major part in helping Stoke City win promotion.

His experience, ability and powers of leadership slotted in brilliantly with those of Mike Doyle and manager Alan Durban as Stoke bounced back into the First Division last season after a two year absence.

So why did Kendall turn his back on the Division he graced so well for so long to take up the reins of struggling Blackburn? What persuaded him, at only 32, to become Rovers' 15th manager since the war?

He explained: "I made up my mind, even as Stoke were winning promotion with me in the team, that if I wanted to continue playing



KENDALL'S CHALLENGE

in the Football League, I would have to drop down a Division, not go up one.

"And I do want to keep playing. I also want to begin my career in management.

"Yes, it is a challenge. We have a lot to do to be in a position to achieve what I want for next season — a squad geared to winning promotion at the first attempt. But I am under no illusions. I am taking things a step at a time."

Kendall, born in Ryton-on-Tyne, was the youngest player to appear in a Cup Final when he donned the left-half's shirt for Preston North End in May, 1964. At 17, he marked the beginning of a distinguished career with a good performance as Preston twice led before losing 3-2

to West Ham United.

After 104 League matches and 13 goals for North End, he was bought by ambitious Everton and quickly became a household name — a player always on the verge of full international honours which, amazingly, never materialised, despite six England Under-23 caps.

At Goodison Park he formed part of a tremendous Championship winning midfield that comprised Kendall, Alan Ball and Colin Harvey. Their title triumph in 1970 was some consolation for Kendall who collected another F.A. Cup runners-up medal when Everton lost the 1968 Final 1-0 to West Bromwich Albion.

He scored 21 League goals in 227 League games for Everton before joining Birmingham City in

February, 1974, in part exchange for centre-forward Bob Latchford. And after 115 League games and 16 goals for 'Bum' he moved up the Midlands' road to The Potteries.

"I realised that here was an opportunity to continue playing while also learning the trade of management," he said. "And this is very important to me as I get into the Blackburn job. Because I spent 18 months working as player-coach to Alan Durban, and I believe that this period in my career will stand me in good stead for my new job.

"The first thing that confronted me was a series of contract disputes. So before I even put on a tracksuit, there are administrative problems to be solved. But that is

all part of the job.

"I have been asked if taking on a player-manager's job rather than working as manager only might prove too much. But I stress those 18 months with Stoke. I know what I face, I have seen the job at first-hand and I know exactly what it is like to go out and play then face training on a Monday as coach.

"Right now, as happens every time a new manager joins a club, the players are making up their minds about me and probably even testing me out a little. But that is only natural. Everybody feels a little anxious at first. We have to get to know each other.

"I want the players to want to play for me, to share my enthusiasm. But I also believe that example counts for a lot.

"The problem in football is that there are simply not enough prizes to go around. Every Third Division manager will adopt the same attitude around this time — one of positive thought and ambition. We must all work towards one of those top three places, otherwise there is no point in being in the job.

"I know the type of players I want. That's not to say I can sign them or even afford them. But I know what I want. The next step is to decide what positions require strengthening.

"It is all about what you do out on the pitch. What pleases me is that I have a part to play there also. I can do the job from behind the desk and out on the pitch — and that must give me an advantage."

Howard Kendall has it all to do putting once-mighty Blackburn back on the soccer map. Many of the mighty have fallen further — clubs such as Huddersfield Town and Portsmouth — but none was fortunate enough to acquire the type of personality Rovers have in their efforts to restore the club to its former glories.

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO Ask the Expert

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd.,
King's Reach Tower,
Stamford Street,
London, SE1 9LS.
£1 for every letter published

Fastest Cup Final goal

How quick was the quickest goal in an F.A. Cup Final, and who scored it?

GRAEME HUMPHRIES, WARRINGTON

● The all-time honour goes to John Devey, who scored for Aston Villa 40 seconds after the start of the 1895 Final

against West Bromwich, Graeme. And as it turned out, it was the only goal of the match.

As regards Wembley, though, the record is held by Jackie Milburn — 45 seconds in Newcastle's 3-1 win over Manchester City in 1955.

Cardiff City

What is the nearest Cardiff have ever got to being Football League Champions?

IAN WATSON, PONTYPRIDD

● Well, they almost made it in 1923-24, Ian.

Cardiff and Huddersfield both finished on 57 points — with the Yorkshire side taking the Championship on the most slender margin imaginable.

Huddersfield's final goal-tally of 60 for, and 33 against — compared with Cardiff's 61 for, and 34 against — gave them the title by a goal-average margin of 1.818 to 1.794.

And thereby hangs a sad Welsh tale. In Cardiff's last match of the season, against Birmingham, they were awarded a penalty. Realising its importance, several players chickened-out of taking it before Len Davies was eventually pressed into service.

Poor Davies missed — and the game ended in a goal-less draw. Had he scored, the 1-0 victory would have given Cardiff the title by a point.

One goal Emlyn

Has Emlyn Hughes ever scored for England in a full international?

JULIE BROWN, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE



● Yes, Julie, just once. That was in his 3-0 win over Wales in Cardiff on 20th May 1972.

Emmo really deserved No. 2 in the recent 0-0 draw with Sweden in Stockholm; powering his way forward for nearly three-quarters of the length of the pitch — only to see his powerful shot beat the 'keeper and thump against the crossbar.

SHORT PASSES

● Peter Shilton played 286 League games for Leicester, and 110 for Stoke, before being transferred to Forest for £250,000 on 15th September, 1977.

(ANDREW CHIN, Malaysia)

● Terry Paine played for England in 19 full internationals between 1962-63 and 1965-66.

(ALAN SHARP, Edinburgh)

● Bobby Charlton scored a record 49 goals in his 106 full internationals for England; and five goals in six Under-23 games.

(MALCOLM DICKSON, West Molesey)

● Notts County were founded in 1862; Stoke City in 1863; and Nottingham Forest in 1865.

(MARK WALSH, Warrington)

● Bristol Rovers were formed in 1883 — under the name of Black Arabs! — and were elected to the Football League in 1920.

(ANDY UNWIN, Harlech)

Our Expert would like to point out that although all letters are read, he can only reply to published questions because of shortage of time.

**CHAMPIONS
in EUROPE**

RACING STRASBOURG

IN France, everything depended on the last fixture of the season. Strasbourg had a two-point lead at the top of the table, but rivals Nantes and St.-Etienne both had superior goal differences. All three clubs were playing away — and any of them could clinch the League title. In the event, all three won, and Strasbourg's 3-0 win in Lyon gave them their first ever League title.

In a strange stop-start League programme spanning a marathon 46 weeks, Strasbourg were the most consistent side, and thoroughly deserved their historic success. Among their chief rivals, SHOOT's pre-season tip, Nantes started feebly but suddenly shot up the table by picking up 26 points from a 14-match spell that included eight consecutive wins. They hit a record 85 goals, but that poor start

Compiled by CLAUDE MULLER

cost them the title.

St.-Etienne, in the process of rebuilding a top-class team, didn't expect to win the title, yet won all but one of their home games. But for their away form, they could have pulled off a surprise.

Defending Champions Monaco looked dangerous for much of the season, but their challenge crumbled dramatically in the spring.

Among the outsiders, Metz, Sochaux, Lyon and Bordeaux all hit purple patches to move into the top four, but all failed to sustain their challenges. Bastia, with Dutch stars Rep (now St.-Etienne) and Rijsbergen (now Cosmos) did nothing worth of mention. And the Paris clubs had a dismal season, with Paris FC relegated. Their only bright note was that St. Germain's Argentinian striker Carlos Bianchi hit 27 goals to top the scoring charts for the fourth consecutive year.

In the meantime, Strasbourg were steadily picking up points and staying one step ahead of the challengers. Whereas last year's Champions Monaco relied on the Mediterranean short-ball style, Strasbourg have based their play on the more Northern attributes of the long ball and aggressive running.

They made only one addition to the squad that finished third in the League last year, and their manager, Gilbert Gress, maintains that

the side needed only that little extra experience to become a good one. Gress amazingly prefers to work with a squad of just 13 professionals, and he's fortunately been spared serious injuries.

The basis of their success is a sound defence, and strength in all departments — which has led to the incorporation of five of their players into the national team, right from goalkeeper Dropsy to striker Gemmrich.

Even so, Gress would like to reinforce his squad with a view to making an impact in next year's European Cup — but with an average gate of 14,000 the vaults are not stacked high with cash.

And it remains one of the permanent contradictions of French football that magazines such as *France Football* can claim 1½ million readers per week while only 90,000 go to watch matches.

Club History

Founded 1906.

Stadium: Meinau, capacity 33,000. **Cup winners:** 1951 (Valenciennes 3-0) and 1966 (Nantes 1-0).

Beaten Finalists: 1937 (Sochaux 1-2) and 1947 (Lille 0-2)

In Europe: Beaten 1-2 by Slavia Sofia in the 1967 Cup-Winners' Cup First Round. Beaten 0-5 by Manchester Utd. in the 1965 Fairs Cup. Beaten on a toss of coin by AC Milan in the 1966 Fairs Cup. In 1978-79 beat Elfsborg 4-3 in the U.E.F.A. Cup before losing 0-4 to Duisburg in the Second Round.

FRANCE

Final League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Strasbourg	38	22	12	4	68	28	56
Nantes	38	23	8	7	85	33	54
Saint-Etienne	38	24	6	8	77	34	54
Monaco	38	18	8	12	70	51	44
Metz	38	19	6	13	61	56	44
Lille	38	11	18	9	66	62	40
Lyon	38	15	10	13	53	56	40
Nimes	38	15	9	14	61	50	39
Sochaux	38	15	9	14	63	53	39
Bordeaux	38	12	15	11	45	42	39
Nancy	38	15	8	15	77	60	38
Marseille	38	12	13	13	50	55	37
Paris							
St. Germain	38	14	8	16	59	66	36
Bastia	38	13	9	16	53	65	35
Nice	38	11	10	17	58	75	32
Laval	38	8	14	16	53	73	30
Angers	38	8	14	16	37	68	30
Valenciennes	38	9	10	19	36	65	28
Paris F.C.	38	9	10	19	42	77	28
Stade Reims	38	3	11	24	26	71	17

Leading Scorers

27 Bianchi (Paris S.G.)
22 Onnis (Monaco), Pécourt (Nantes)
21 Marguerite (Nimes), Pleimelding (Lille), Rocheteau (St.-Etienne)
17 Bjekovic (Nice), Gemmrich (Strasbourg)
16 Cabral (Lille)
15 Ivezić (Sochaux), Olarevic (Lille), Rep (Bastia), Zénier (Nancy)
14 Beltramini (Paris F.C.), Lacombe (St.-Etienne), Piasecki and Wagner (Strasbourg)



Strasbourg boss, Gilbert Gress.

PEN PICTURES — RACING STRASBOURG

Dominique DROPSY: Age 27. Ht. 6ft. Wt. 11st 13lb. A safe goalkeeper, despite his name, signed from Valenciennes in 1973. French international who made one World Cup appearance last year.

Raymond DOMENECH: Age 27. Ht. 5ft 7in. Wt. 10st 10lb. Signed from Lyon two years ago, is now rated by many as the best full-back in France. Six caps for his country.

Jacky NOVI: Age 33. Ht. 5ft 9in. Wt. 11st 7lb. Veteran defender who's represented France at four levels, including 20 full caps. Arrived at Strasbourg in 1977, via Nimes, Marseille and Paris S.G.

Jacky DUGUEPEROUX: Age 31. Ht. 5ft 9in. Wt. 10st 12lb. Another experienced defender signed from Valenciennes in 1973. Under-21 international. Club captain.

Léonard SPECHT: Age 25. Ht. 5ft 11in. Wt. 11st 11lb. One of the new stars of French football. Came through the Strasbourg youth teams, made his mark as a top-class central-defender, and rapidly won a place in the national team.

Jean-Jaques MARX: Age 22. Ht. 5ft 11in. Wt. 11st 7lb. With that name he should be a left-winger, but he's a promising young defender who joined Racing from his local club Fegersheim. Under-21 international.

René DEUTSCHMANN: Age 27. Ht. 5ft 7in. Wt. 10st 11lb. Home-grown right-

flank midfielder who's had an excellent campaign. Youth international.

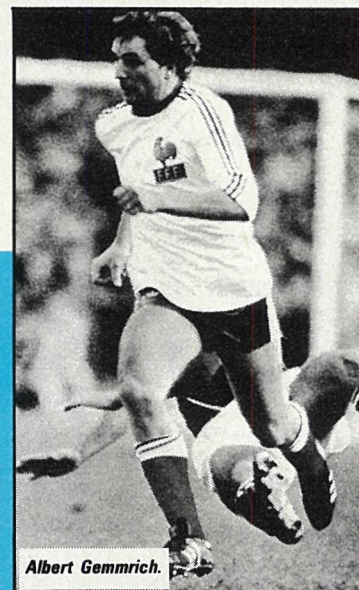
Francis PIASECKI: Age 27. Ht. 5ft 9in. Wt. 11st. Fast, creative midfielder who joined in 1977 after spells with Metz, Sochaux and Paris S.G. Under-21, 'B' and full international. Weighed in with 13 vital goals this term.

Yves EHRLACHER: Age 24. Ht. 5ft 9in. Wt. 11st. Under-21 international midfielder who's worked his way up through the Strasbourg youth teams.

Roger JOUVE: Age 30. Ht. 5ft 8in. Wt. 10st 10lb. The only new signing this season, his experience was needed in midfield. Represented his country five times dur-



Action from Strasbourg's U.E.F.A. Cup-tie against MSV Duisburg. The match ended in a 0-0 draw.



Albert Gemmrich.

ing his long spell with previous club, OGC Nice.

Albert GEMMRICH: Age 24. Ht. 5ft 9in. Wt. 11st. Signed from his local club, Haguenau in 1974, this free-scoring left-winger has rapidly established himself among the country's leading marksmen, and has recently made some promising appearances in the French national team. Top scorer again this season.

Joël TANTER: Age 28. Ht. 5ft 7in. Wt. 11st. Striker who has good ball control and hustles and bustles opposing defenders into mistakes. Joined The Blues from FCK 06 in 1974.

Roland WAGNER: Age 23. Ht. 5ft 7in. Wt. 11st. Home-grown, right-footed striker who's notched 14 goals this season. Youth and 'B' international.

STRASBOURG

BACK ROW (left to right): Specht, Novi, Marx,
Domenech, Dropsy, Dugueperoux.
FRONT ROW: Piasecki, Wagner, Tranter,
Deutschmann, Gemmrich.



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2nd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
3rd	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4th	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
5th	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Name

Age

Address

Parent/Guardian's Signature

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SCORE WITH STRIKER



Q.P.R.

— 'Just the job'

— Ken Shellito



KEN Shellito is back in football — as assistant-manager and chief coach at Queens Park Rangers.

He has been brought back into the big-time by Tommy Docherty, Rangers' recently appointed new boss.

Docherty acted with his usual speed after his surprising switch from Derby to Loftus Road — and Shellito was the first 'signing' he made.

His offer was a great boost to the likeable Shellito, who had been out of work since losing his job at Chelsea a few months earlier.

There had been opportunities to get back into action. But they were not what the 39-year-old Shellito was looking for and he was prepared to wait for something suitable to come along.

And he had no hesitation in saying 'yes' when Docherty approached him to be part of the set-up at Rangers.

"I did not have to think twice. It was just the job for me," said Shellito — whose split with Chelsea ended a 24-year spell at Stamford Bridge.

"I know Tommy well, I get on

with him and I admire the drive and ambition he has," continued Shellito.

"Tommy knows what he wants and he has a knack of getting it. Life should be interesting at Rangers with him in charge and I am looking forward to linking up with him again.

"I was still a player at Chelsea when The Doc became manager there in the early 1960's. About a year after he took over I was forced to give up the game through injury and he looked after me well.

"I was flattered and delighted when he offered me this job with Rangers. It was too good an oppor-

tunity to turn down and I am confident I can make a go of it.

"I could have joined Crystal Palace before the Rangers job came along. They wanted me to take over as youth team coach from John Cartwright — who left to become full-time manager of the England Youth team.

"That was obviously tempting. For Palace, now back in the First Division, are a great club and have an outstanding young manager in Terry Venables.

"The youth policy there has produced half the current first team and there seems no limit to what can be achieved at Selhurst Park.

"But after a lot of thought and consideration I decided to turn the offer down — because I was looking for something above the youth team.

"I had many years of running the youngsters at Chelsea and was a bit reluctant to go back to it. But I am grateful to Terry for offering me the chance and I wish him and Palace all the very best for the future.

"There is obviously a lot of work to be done at Queens Park Rangers, who were unfortunately relegated to the Second Division at

the end of last season.

"That's a situation we all want to put right without delay, although we must again ask the fans to show some patience during a period of transition.

"The prospects at the club are good. For if money is needed for new players I am sure there will be some available. The selling of Francis to Palace has helped bring a little cash to Loftus Road.

"That's an advantage Rangers will have over my previous club, Chelsea, who will be joining us in the Second Division next season.

"The debt they find themselves in after building that magnificent new stand at Stamford Bridge means they have to watch every penny and Chelsea will have to sell before they can go for new faces.

"I can't tell you how much I am looking forward to this new challenge. It was only three years ago Rangers finished runners-up to Liverpool in the First Division Championship.

"Getting back to those exalted heights will be the aim of us all — although we must walk before we run and make a return to the First Division our top priority.

"One thing you can be sure of. With the Dynamic Doc running the show life will most certainly not be dull!"

Orient — 'Glad I'm back'

— Tommy Taylor

TOMMY Taylor will be back in Orient colours when the new season kicks-off on August 18th.

He got his wish to leave West Ham United when his contract expired in June and jumped at the chance of returning to the club where he began his career.

Taylor, 27, was determined to leave The Hammers whatever happened. And it seemed inevitable he would go to America — where San Diego Sockers had made a bid for him.

But once Orient moved in with a surprise swoop Taylor's mind was made up. He did not need much persuading to sign for Jimmy Bloomfield, the man who transferred him from Orient to West Ham eight years ago.

The fee then was £75,000 — £5,000 more than Orient have now paid to get him back.

"West Ham have more or less got their money back, so they can't say the have not had good value out of me," said Taylor — who now combines football with running a public house in Essex.

"I had some great times at Upton Park and helped the club to success. During my time there The

Hammers won the F.A. Cup, were beaten in the Final of the European Cup-Winners' Cup and reached the Semi-Final of the League Cup.

"On a personal note I also won fourteen England Under-23 caps, to go with the schoolboy and youth international honours I had gained earlier.

"There are good days to look back on. But I had not been happy there for the past two years and had been itching to get away to make a fresh start.

"I had no complaints with the players, who were a great bunch of lads. But things had gone sour in other directions and there was no way I could have stayed.

"I had a season in America last summer, playing for Team Hawaii. The idea of going back appealed to me and a move to San Diego seemed on the cards.

"But once Orient showed their hand, the decision was easy. Jimmy Bloomfield did not have to sell the club to me — for I knew all about them and him — from my previous spell with them.

"I joined Orient straight from school and made my first team debut with them before my 16th



birthday.

"The club had overcome a financial crisis that at one time threatened their future and had climbed into the Second Division before I was transferred to West

Ham United.

"That's where they are now — but I will be very surprised if they are not pressing strongly for promotion to the First next season.

"Jimmy has done a fine job after returning to Brisbane Road from Leicester and the club is run more professionally now than when I was last here.

"There are some outstanding youngsters at the club, and one or two older heads to give a nice blend.

"Orient showed what they are capable of 18 months ago by storming to the Semi-Final of the F.A. Cup only to be beaten 3-0 by Arsenal and they had a spell last season when they emerged as a real danger to the promotion contenders.

"They failed to sustain their challenge. But the ability is unquestionably there and with a bit of consistency The O's can be in business next time round.

"I'm really happy to be going back there. I'm looking forward to playing football for the first time in a couple of years and if we get off to a good start I'm sure we can be right up there chasing honours."

THE SILLY SEASON

Phil Thompson takes an early bath when his team-mate Phil Neal tosses him into the swim pool on England's European tour.

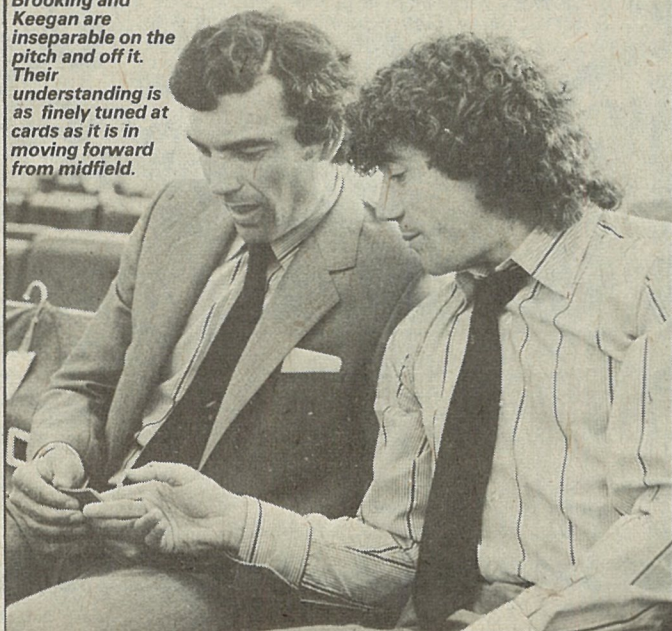


Professional footballers lead a disciplined existence from August to the end of April. So when the League season ends they take the opportunity to relax and enjoy some of the pleasures people from other walks of life experience. SHOOT captures the "silly season" atmosphere in this off-beat selection of pictures taken during the close season. It's fun, fun, fun all the way before the players return for pre-season training.



Cheers! Byron Stevenson (left) and Carl Harris toast Wales' 2-0 European Championship win over Malta — and soak up the Continental sun.

Brooking and Keegan are inseparable on the pitch and off it. Their understanding is as finely tuned as cards as it is in moving forward from midfield.



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In the highly-organised football of today, stopping goals is almost as important as scoring them. Proof of this is that goalkeepers are commanding fees comparable with those asked for marksmen.

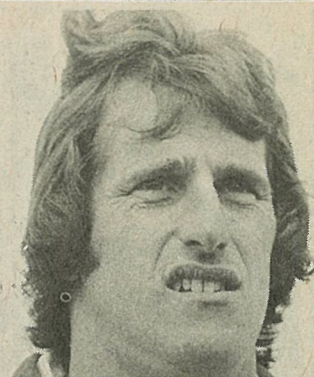
Second Division West Ham paid £565,000 for Phil Parkes from Q.P.R. last term, which at the time made him the most expensive goalkeeper in the world.

Now that goal-difference obtains in the Football League, instead of goal-average, it's even more important to keep goals against to a minimum.

A few weeks ago I paid tribute to the men we 'keepers face, the men whose aim in life is to give us permanent backache through picking the ball out of our nets, and this week I'd like to put the Clemence spotlight on my kind of player, by selecting the ten best saves I was privileged to see last season.

First that springs to mind is one made by Everton's George Wood, the player who unfortunately had such a bad Press following his mistake in the England/Scotland game at Wembley, when he failed to hold a Ray Wilkins shot and allowed Steve Coppell to tap in our second goal.

I can't think of one goalkeeper at



From a corner by City, the ball was headed on to their Asa Hartford on the edge of the penalty-box, and he in turn headed it towards the top corner of the Everton goal.

Quick as a flash, the agile George came off his line, flung out a hand, and touched the ball round the post.

Gary Bailey of Manchester United was blamed, wrongly in my opinion, for the third Arsenal goal that robbed his team of extra-time in the F.A. Cup Final and won the day for The Gunners.

Gary has proved a worthy successor to the great Alex Stepney — who helped United to become England's

'THE TEN

international level who hasn't suffered a period when he's been below his best.

George was brilliant in our local derby at Anfield, when Liverpool went all-out to avenge our defeat at Goodison Park last October. For a long period only George stood between us going on a goals rampage after we'd opened the scoring. Thanks to his defiant performance, the Merseyside Blues rallied and succeeded in getting the equaliser that made us look sick.

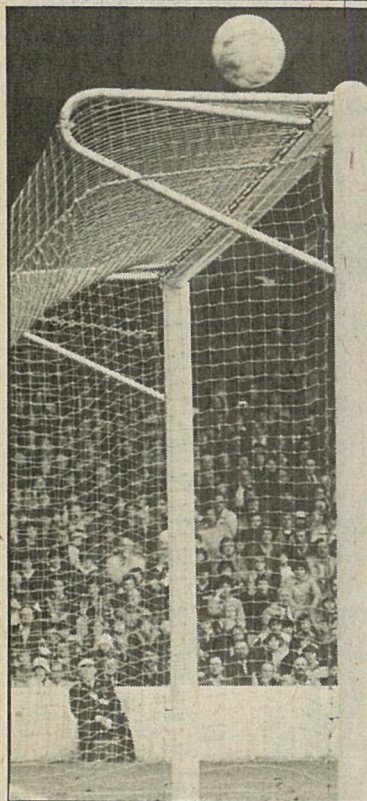
But the Wood supersaver that really registered with me was not made in that game, but against Manchester City at Maine Road.

first European Cup winners in 1968 at Wembley — and saved manager Dave Sexton from having to import an expensive signing.

He showed all his brilliance in saving a mighty half-volley from 25-yards out made by West Brom's Cyrille Regis. The ball seemed destined for the top left-hand corner of his net. Not only did the fast-

'I've always rated Dai Davies highly'





*'George Wood
acted quick
as a flash'*

**RAY
CLEMENCE**
talking soccer



BEST SAVES I SAW LAST SEASON'

moving Gary reach it, but caught it two-handed.

My England friend and great rival Peter Shilton enjoyed surely his best-ever season when he ended up with a European Cup medal. So it's understandable I pick out a save he made during that competition for Nottingham Forest.

It was in the second-half of a tie with Grasshoppers, the Swiss side, from their striker, Sulser, whom it was rumoured so impressed Brian Clough, Forest's manager, he attempted to sign him.

One test of a top 'keeper is his ability to retain his concentration during long periods of inactivity. And Peter passed it with flying colours when Sulser, after his side had been under continual pressure, broke through into Forest's 18-yard box with the ball and unleashed a rocket-like shot for a corner of the goal.

The situation was such that if the striker had scored, the course of the game could have changed in Grasshoppers' favour.

But Peter succeeded in somehow pushing the ball away to one side for his defence to clear.

Although Liverpool beat Leeds United by three goals to nil in our last League game of the season to exceed the 85 goals needed to claim the £50,000 prize offered by Corals

and The Sun newspaper, not one of them was the fault of their 'keeper David Harvey.

David, incidentally is, like George Wood, Scottish, and has come in for unfair criticism as an international.

Our Red Machine was in top gear, pulling the Leeds defence all over the place, and once the ball was floated over to Terry McDermott, standing near the penalty-spot. Terry promptly hit a screaming half-volley at the Leeds' net.

David managed to fly across his goal and block the shot with his legs. The ball rebounded to safety outside the box!

Although Sheffield United were relegated from the Second Division, their players had one night of glory, when they knocked us out of the League Cup in Round Two.

And the highlight of that shock result was when their 'keeper, Steve Conroy, excelled himself by making an incredible save from another of Terry Mac's superbly-struck half-volleys.

This one was from 30-yards out, screaming for the top left-hand corner, and moving away from the 'keeper. but he was in inspired form. Stretching himself to the limit, he got the touch that sent the ball round a post! Unforgettable — for him and us!

Save number six, screened on television, was made by Sunderland's Barry Siddall in their last game of the season, at a psychological moment.

Sunderland were at Wrexham, and with ten minutes to go the score was 1-1. Wrexham's Dixie McNeil, a deadly striker, headed the ball with tremendous power at short range, only to see Barry tip it over his bar.

Sunderland went on to win the game. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough to win them promotion, although I feel they are worthy of a place in the First Division and should earn it at the end of next season.

Two essentials in a goalkeeper are the ability to see in advance what the opposition plan to do, in order to be positioned to frustrate it, and also to be prepared to act in an unorthodox way if necessary.

Joe Corrigan displayed both in the England/Wales game at Wembley in the British Championship.

The Welsh build-up began on the halfway-line and ended with two of their players running unchallenged on to a lofted ball outside our penalty-area.

Joe had already seen the danger. So what did he do? If you were present or watched on TV, you know the answer. He sprinted clear

of our box, and because he couldn't use his hands, headed the ball clear — and not aimlessly either, but to Ray Wilkins to set our attack in motion!

Joe did not get the recognition he deserved for that bit of quick thinking.

Coventry's Les Sealey is among our crop of up-and-coming custodians in the Football League, and is notable for his lightning reflexes.

Not many 'keepers can deny our Kenny Dalglish a goal when he's got the ball only eight yards away without a defender on him. But Les, when we played for The Skyblues at Highfield Road, pounced like a panther on Kenny's hard and low shot to turn it away!

I am pleased that Dai Davies, in goal for Wrexham, continues to hold his place in the Wales team, as I've rated him highly since his Everton days.

He made my "number nine" save in the British Championship game against Northern Ireland, the night before England played Scotland at Wembley and clinched the Championship for the second year running.

It was another save of the "crucial" type, which had a bearing on the outcome.

The ball floated into his area, and an Irish player struck it with a fierce downward header. If it had netted, the wearers of the green would have gone two-up.

Dai's finely-timed dive dealt superbly with one of the most difficult headers in the game.

Although Nottingham Forest finished runners-up to us, in mid-season West Bromwich Albion were the club pushing the hardest.

When we met on February 3rd, it was a real high-tension affair, with both teams anxious to grab both points.

For the first 20 minutes, West Brom had us pinned down, defending with every ounce of our experience and skill. But as they tired, we began to go forward.

Suddenly Kenny Dalglish received the ball with his back to their goal. As only he can, he turned on a new halfpenny, slipped clear of his marker, flipped the ball up and whacked it on the half-volley.

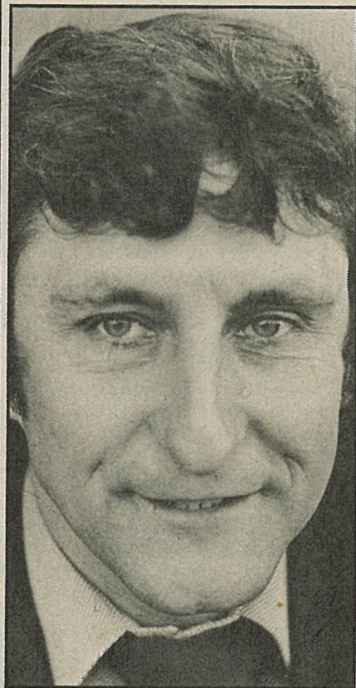
At waist-height, it rocketed towards the far corner — only to be flicked round the post by goalkeeper Tony Godden, bringing off the sort of save that has to be seen to be believed.

Just one of the ten best efforts by the men between the sticks that helped make 1978/79 a great season.

Will next term throw up a better selection of saves? Only time will tell!

Ray Clemence

BUTLER'S WHEELING AND DEALING IN YOUTH



WHEN Dennis Butler took over the managerial hot seat at Fourth Division Port Vale last Summer he had two ways to go.

"I could have gone for the 'oldies', bought a team and tried to get promotion for the club at the first attempt," he says. "I could have said no! This is going to be a club for years to come, so let's get it on its feet."

Dennis, 35, chose the latter. "I knew in my heart of hearts that Port Vale wouldn't do anything last year," he says "and I did what I thought was right."

"I felt it was important to get the right staff and the right players. We spent £30,000 tidying up underneath the stand because it was a mess. I feel we're a football club now where people can walk in and see that it's run properly."

"We've got talent here and a lot of young people. Many of the top clubs keep coming to look at us. It's not a patched up outfit where we've picked up free transfers and been hitty bitty."

"Everything is going to revolve round our being successful in the next couple of years or so. At least I feel that the groundwork has been done and that the club is running smoothly and very professionally."

"At Port Vale we've set ourselves a very high standard. I mean, we've got the great Gordon Banks working for us. We're hoping that his values will rub off on the young lads and, given the right amount of time and patience, everything should come right."

"But that doesn't happen overnight. I look round at the Fourth Division and there are 14 managers who have gone in twelve months, which is ridiculous. And even though I chose this job, it would have been at the expense of myself because I know everybody's wanting success."

"But I felt it was so necessary to stabilise ourselves last season. Not that people can see from the out-

side, but we knew that we were on the right lines. Now we know what we are doing. We're organised and the players know what's expected from them. We know as a club where we are going and why.

"The average age of the team towards the end of last season was 22-23 and that's no age. Those lads are growing up all the time and I think next year they'll be all the better for it."

Dennis, who is on a two year contract, wheeled and dealt in the transfer market during the first four months of last term.

"I needed a big striker," he says, "so I signed Bernie Wright. He finished up as leading goalscorer. We got him for £9,000 from Bradford and he's been a good buy. A lot of clubs would like him."

"Then came Kenny Todd from Wolves. We picked him up and paid quite a lot of money for him. Last season was his first year, really. He's only 22 and I think we'll see the best of him in the future."

Suffered

"We bought Gerry Keenan from Bury. He's had a sound season and has gone down well with the fans. Felix Healy joined us from Ireland for a small fee. After that Peter Farrell arrived from Bury. He's had his problems having suffered a double cartilage, but he was showing what he could do towards the end."

"There are a few younger lads at the club who have not really played before, but they've settled down and won their places. Then we've the experienced men like Bill Bentley and Graham Hawkins to mix in with them. So we've got a nicely balanced squad."

Dennis, with eyes set firmly on the future, made sure all his players were under contract and tied to the club for at least two years.

"I knew I had that period to plan for," he says. "I've no need to go out and buy because we did that last season. We can pick up more or less where we left off and carry on where we think we'll improve."

"Our planning has been a little long term. Of course we wanted to do something last year, but it's like saying to a lad who hasn't played in the League before, 'Right, get out there and be a full time professional'."

"He needs that time and we gave so many people that time and scope last year. Now were hoping we can enter the next campaign as a side to be feared."

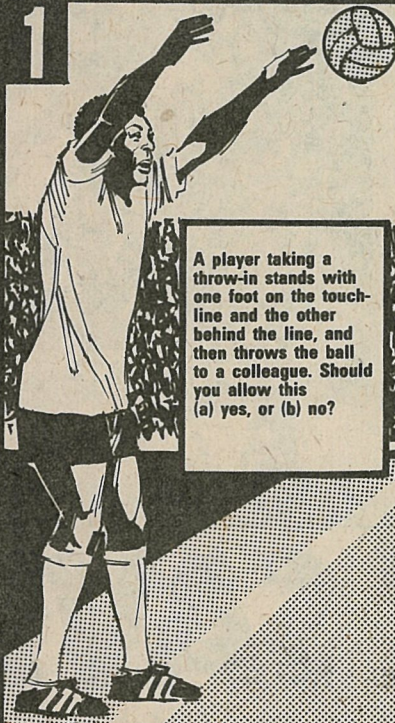
Promotion? "Last season I gave leeway because of development. We've got to say that we're here for one purpose and that is to get Port Vale promotion."



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1



A player taking a throw-in stands with one foot on the touch-line and the other behind the line, and then throws the ball to a colleague. Should you allow this (a) yes, or (b) no?

2

When examining a ball before a match you check the circumference. Which measurement is correct. (a) 24 inches (b) 26 inches, or (c) 28 inches?



3

You hear a player shouting for the ball when a team-mate is in possession and opponents are near. Should you (a) take no action, or (b) caution the player and restart with a free-kick?



4

Challenging an opponent with the ball, a player stretches out his arms and steps from side to side, causing the opponent to change direction, although no body contact is made. Should you award (a) a direct free-kick, or (b) an indirect free-kick?



5

A player swears loudly at a team-mate. You, the referee, stop play and send the offender off. How should you restart play, (a) award a direct free-kick, or (b) an indirect free-kick?



ANSWERS

1 (b) No. 2 (c) 28 inches. 3 (a) Take no action. 4 (b) an indirect free-kick. 5 (b) an indirect free-kick.

STAY ON THE BALL!



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Week ending MARCH 3

CHELSEA'S "COPY CAT"

"SOUTHERN Softies"? Well, Brian Clough's oft-quoted jibe goes a bit astray when Stapleton gets the only goal of the game to put out Forest on their own ground in the long-postponed F.A. Cup Fifth Round tie.

And Forest fans with long memories have to think back to April, 1977, to recall the last time their side got "done" on their home turf.

And it's a blow to high-flying Palace the same night when, also at home, they similarly crash out of the Cup to a single Patching goal for struggling Wolves.

Promotion hopefuls Sunderland, too, drop a real clanger when they're K.O.'d 3-0 at home by Burnley.

But Cup-holders Ipswich show they're in no mood to relinquish the "Old Tin Pot" easily when they hammer Bristol Rovers 6-1. Dutchman Arnold Muhren has long expressed a wish to play at Wembley — and some of his magic indicates he's even more determined than ever now.

Two nights later, there's some more foreign magic when Senor Ardiles sets Oldham alight — and, though Spurs only get through with a single Perryman goal, at least there are signs that the earlier Tottenham Cup hiccups are almost over.

Simultaneously, all-conquering Liverpool dispose of Burnley 3-0 — but now face the awkward task of meeting Cup-holders Ipswich away in the Quarter-Finals.

We've already had the country's first £1-million transfer — and Alan Harker, the League's General Secretary, declares: "Considering the financial problems this nation has, the transfer

market today is nothing short of irresponsible."

And many of the lesser-lights — who might be hard put to buy the clippings off Liam Brady's toenails! — would certainly agree. So, if they're honest enough to admit it, would even the big clubs who actually fork-out those big sums — but how to keep things in check now is quite another matter.

Chelsea's new Yugoslav international 'keeper Petar Borota has potentially the most daunting of League debuts — against Liverpool.

But, besides endearing himself to his new home fans, the acrobatic Continental acquires himself well — and Liverpool are frustrated to a 0-0 draw.

Southampton may be a comfortable middle-of-the-table side themselves — but they seem to be very "pro-Liverpool" in rocking the other title contenders.

In their last home match, Saints saw-off Everton 3-0; this Saturday, even with an injury-weakened side, they similarly out-play Arsenal 2-0.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 6 — Swindon.
TOTAL GOALS: 112 (average 2.67 per game).
HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Beamish (Bury v. Exeter).
TABLE-TOPPERS: Div. 1, Liverpool; Div. 2, Stoke; Div. 3, Watford; Div. 4, Reading.
HIGHEST GATE: 42,419 (Villa v. Birmingham).
TOTAL GATE: 546,831.
AVERAGE GATE: 13,019.

DUNDEE SINK ST. MIRREN

THERE are only three games on in the Premier Division and the top clash is at Parkhead between Celtic and Aberdeen. Celtic, third from the bottom, are first to find their form.

But it takes Billy McNeill's men 65 minutes before they can find a way through the red shirts to score. Celtic race down the right and a Provan cross finds Conn in the clear. He sweeps the ball into the net from eight yards. The one goal doesn't tell the story of this exciting match.

Ally MacLeod, after a much-publicised clear out brings in five players aged 17-18 for his side's visit to Firhill and the match with Thistle.

And although the youngsters are keen to show their paces the game ends in a no scoring draw.

Both 'keepers, Rough for Thistle, and Rennie for Motherwell, are in top trim and the score sheet stays blank.

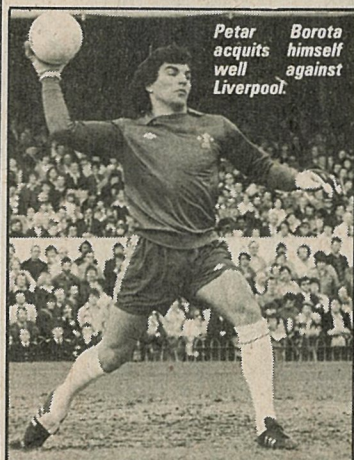
Dundee United pile on all the pressure in the first-half in the game at Easter Road against Hibs, but Hibs "steal" the points.

It is an afternoon of missed chances for United. Time and time again they build up attacks with free flowing football only to squander the advantage. It is Hibs' Bremner who shows the Tannadice men how it is done. From 20 yards he blasts in a vicious left foot drive.

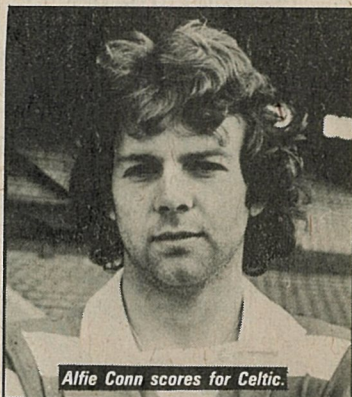
In the Fourth Round of the Scottish Cup, First Division Dundee sink Premier Division leaders St. Mirren 4-1. A Hearts v. Morton duel in the same competition ends in a 1-1 draw.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 27,000 (Celtic v. Aberdeen).
PREM. DIV. TOTAL ATT.: 36,000.
TOTAL GOALS (3 DIVS): 36.
TABLE TOPPERS: St. Mirren.
HIGHEST SCORE: 5, Stenhousemuir.



Petar Borota acquires himself well against Liverpool.



Alfie Conn scores for Celtic.

Week ending MARCH 10

SWISS ROLL FOR GRASSHOPPERS

AFTER the winter lay-off, the big Euro club competitions are back — and into the crucial Quarter-Final stages.

Forest look safe for a Semi-Final place when they take a comfortable-looking 4-1 home first-leg lead over Grasshoppers.

But the scoreline makes it look easier than it really is. The Swiss take an early shock lead — and then, only 2-1 to Forest in the dying stages, Shilton has to pull a couple of his "specials" out of the bag before his side give Grasshoppers a real Swiss Roll with two more goals in the last two minutes.

In the Cup-Winners' Cup, Ipswich beat Barcelona 2-1 at home.

Even less happily placed are Manchester City who, in the U.E.F.A. Cup, are held 1-1 at home by Borussia Monchengladbach.

More hopeful, though, are the prospects of West Bromwich, who trail only 0-1 to Red Star in Belgrade — and, with a sound home record, look a fair bet to overtake the Yugoslavs in the home leg to come.

Coventry are one of the most improved sides in the land — but, despite a good performance, get no change to speak of out of Liverpool's League visit.

The Reds are content to settle for a goal-less draw — yet another clean-sheet for Ray Clemence — and three points ahead of Everton, plus two games in hand, with fair justification.

Mike Flanagan, Charlton's unpredictable £750,000-rated striker, is back in the news — with more internal problems coupled with a threat to quit the game altogether.

Which, with much talent to offer, would be a tragedy — but, whatever the "hard-

ships" of a 1979 professional footballer's life, quite a few of the million-and-a-quarter unemployed wouldn't mind changing places!

Saturday brings the F.A. Cup again — and the holders go out. A second-half goal from that supreme snapper-up of half-chances, Kenny Dalglish, is enough to win at Ipswich, and send Liverpool on course for the third "Double" of the 20th century.

It's the only clear-cut tie — all the others ending in 1-1 draws. Spurs and Manchester United finish all-square; as do Wolves, held at home by Third Division Shrewsbury.

And Southampton fight out a similar indecisive result at West Bromwich.

As a result of the bad-weather fixture pile-up, that causes real problems for Albion — still in with a shout for three trophies.

They now have to replay on Monday; play a hard League game on Wednesday, and another on Saturday; then a vital U.E.F.A. Cup-tie three days later.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 6 — Brentford.
TOTAL GOALS: 89 (average 2.17 per game).
HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Phillips (Brentford v. Chester).
TABLE-TOPPERS: Div. 1, Liverpool; Div. 2, Brighton; Div. 3, Watford; Div. 4, Reading.
HIGHEST GATE: 51,800 (Spurs v. Manchester Utd.).
TOTAL GATE: 551,564.
AVERAGE GATE: 13,453.

RANGERS TURN ON THE STYLE

INJURY-hit Rangers, pushed back into defence for most of the European Cup match against Cologne, come back from Germany only one goal down.

On the Saturday in the Quarter Finals of the Scottish Cup, Rangers turn on the style and the goals, and beat Dundee 6-3.

In a thriller at Pittodrie, Celtic open the scoring after 24 minutes. But Aberdeen are soon back on terms.

Both sides go all out for a winner and late in the second-half an Edvaldsson header is cleared off the line by Strachan. However, it ends in a draw.

In an exciting game marred by terracing violence, Hibs and Hearts meet in an Edinburgh derby.

Hibs go in at the interval one up. Stewart gets above the Hearts defence to nod home a Callaghan cross. Rae stretches their lead in the 54th minute with a spectacular goal. With 20 minutes to go Hearts' O'Connor heads in a Robertson cross.

In the Dumbarton v. Thistle tie the "sting" is at the tail. Both teams make the

chances but the fire power seems to be lacking up-front. Then with ten minutes to go Anderson comes up for a corner and heads the ball into the net. Thistle go through.

In the Premier Division Dundee United get back on the goal standard. They beat Morton 4-1. And St Mirren drive another nail into Motherwell's coffin when they win 3-0 away from home.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

CUP GOALS: 15.
CUP ATT: 73,000.
HIGHEST CUP GATE: 24,000 — Aberdeen v. Celtic.
HIGHEST PREM DIV GATE: 6,000 — Dundee Utd v. Morton.
PREM DIV. ATT: 11,000.
TOTAL GOALS (3 DIVS): 40.
TABLE TOPPERS: DUNDEE UTD.
HIGHEST CUP SCORE: 6 — Rangers.
HIGHEST LEAGUE SCORE: 5 — St Johnstone.



Tony Woodcock (left) pierces Grasshoppers defence. Derby action between Hearts and Hibs.



1978-79 season in England and Scotland

Week ending MARCH 17

MILLWALL'S £12 MILLION PLAN

MILLWALL are a friendly, homely club — but, situated around London's dockland, hardly a luxurious one. Now, though, they announce ambitious plans to transform the place into a super-modern £12 million sports complex.

Southampton — already in Saturday's League Cup Final — take another step towards a Wembley-appearance "double" when they edge West Bromwich out of the F.A. Cup 2-1.

Now they've got to meet Ballie's old club, Arsenal, in the Quarter-Finals — after which the winners play Wolves (who overcome Shrewsbury in a replay) in the Semi's.

And the other Semi-Final will see Manchester United — who settle Spurs 2-0 in their replay — lined-up against Liverpool in a red-hot Lancashire hot-pot. And, talking of Liverpool, in their home table-topping Merseyside derby with Everton, the Goodison men pinch a point with a late Andy King equaliser.

Meanwhile West Bromwich, shrugging off that Cup defeat a couple of nights earlier, beat Chelsea to keep up their challenge for, at least, the runners-up spot.

No one seems to want to go to relegation-haunted Q.P.R. Rangers have a lot in the kitty from recent out-going transfers — but the job is unloading it. This week they make unsuccessful bids, totalling nearly £¾-million, for Steve Wicks (Derby), Mick Robinson (Preston) and controversial Willie Johnston (West Bromwich).

And the players of fellow London strugglers Chelsea plead with Danny Blanchflower — whatever the outcome of their desperate relegation fight — to stay on as manager.

When Danny took over in December,

he initially insisted that it was only to be until the end of the season, and then to review the matter. But odds are his arm won't need too much twisting to stay on.

On the Saturday the two clubs meet — with Chelsea losing their ninth home game, and Rangers winning only their second away — but, with Wolves reviving, both look odds-on to accompany Birmingham down to the Second.

The big one, of course, is the League Cup Final — with holders Forest guarding their trophy against a bubbling, Ball-inspired Southampton.

It's one of the comparatively few matches played — with a return of rough weather, the Pools Panel is back again — Forest do the trick by the odd goal in five in an exciting Final.

It's no easy-picking, though, with David Peach shooting Saints into a 16th-minute lead they hold until the superb Garry Birtles — who, in these days of inflated fees, could imagine this bright lad cost a mere £2,000? — scores the first of his two goals 12 minutes after the break.

Woodcock makes it 3-1, but spirited Southampton aren't done yet — with Holmes superbly pegging one back.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 3 — Forest, Q.P.R., Orient.
TOTAL GOALS: 31 (average 2.06 per game).
HAT-TRICKS: None.
TABLE-TOPPERS: Div 1, Liverpool; Div 2, Brighton; Div 3, Watford; Div 4, Reading.
HIGHEST GATE: 100,000 (Wembley: Forest v. Southampton).
TOTAL GATE: 276,801.
AVERAGE GATE: 18,453.

LISBON LION "ROARS" BACK

BOBBY Lennox, who came on in mid-week as a sub when Celtic were put out of the Cup by Aberdeen 2-1 at Parkhead, is on the field from the start in the game on the Saturday against Motherwell.

And the Lisbon Lion "roars" back with two goals as Celts win 2-1.

Dundee United, after a 2-1 League win over Thistle on the Wednesday travel to Aberdeen and win 2-0, with goals from Narey and Fleming.

In a "replay" of the Cup game which Hibs last week won, this time the Hibs v. Hearts clash ends in a point each.

Morton, 6-0 victors over Motherwell during the week, lose to St Mirren 3-1 at Love Street.

Rangers, fresh from a 1-0 midweek win at Easter Road, travel across Glasgow to play Thistle, and as a "jag" for

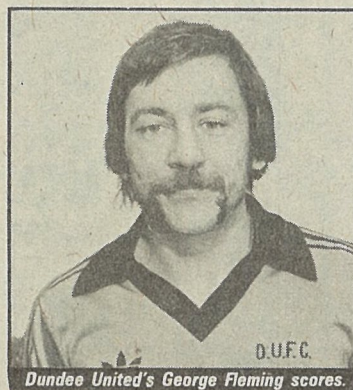
their European Cup game to come they strike twice through Cooper and Urquhart to take the points back to Ibrox.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 20,000 Thistle v. Rangers.
PREM DIV TOTAL ATT.: 63,000.
TOTAL GOALS (3 DIVS): 36.
TABLE-TOPPERS: Dundee United.
HIGHEST SCORE: 3 — St Mirren, Dumbarton, Kilmarnock, Berwick.
● Two games in First (Airdrie v. Montrose and Dundee v. Raith Rovers) and four games in Second (Brachin v. Dunfermline, Cowdenbeath v. E. Stirling, Forfar v. Albion Rovers and Stenhousemuir v. East Fife) cancelled because of the weather ... and tomorrow (March 18) sees the start of British Summer Time.



Nick Holmes for Southampton.



Dundee United's George Fleming scores.

Week ending MARCH 24

"BID" FOR IPSWICH BOSS

DESERVEDLY, Arsenal's brilliant Liam Brady is voted the players' "Player of the Year" by his fellows of the Professional Footballers Association — but it still seems incredible that Kenny Dalglish doesn't even make the top six.

And West Bromwich's exciting young Cyrille Regis equally merits the "Young Player of the Year" award.

Undeterred by the disappointment of that Wembley defeat, battling Southampton press on, a couple of days later, in the F.A. Cup.

But Ballie's boys aren't able to repeat that League defeat of Arsenal three weeks ago — and a 1-1 home draw looks ominous. 48 hours later, at Highbury, it is — two goals from Sunderland, without reply, sending Arsenal through to meet Wolves in the Semi-Finals.

Wolves are a fast-improving side — but not yet enough to sidestep a League beating from Liverpool.

A mixed European midweek for English clubs. Forest draw 1-1 in Zurich to put out Grasshoppers 5-2 on aggregate, and so reach the Champions Cup Semi-Finals.

But, in the U.E.F.A. Cup, it's curtains for both Manchester City (an adverse 2-4 aggregate against Borussia Monchengladbach); and West Bromwich who, disappointingly held at home, go down 1-2 to Red Star Belgrade.

The hard-luck story, though, comes from Barcelona. There Ipswich bravely fight off almost everything that talented team, urged on by 110,000 frenzied supporters, can throw at them to go down by a single goal — and, with a 2-2 aggregate, to go out on the frustrating "away-goals rule".

Barcelona are clearly impressed with their visitors — and, particularly, with the man who manages them.

They're more than a little keen for Bobby Robson to make a move their way — and rumour has it that the wealthy

Spaniards would be prepared to pay a staggering £500,000 over two years.

But odds are that Robson, also boss of England's "B" side, is happy to stay put — even if Ipswich were persuaded to release him from a contract which still has more than six years to run.

Comes Saturday — and with it (no surprise) yet another Liverpool win. Ipswich, who fought so valiantly in Barcelona, find this 1979 Liverpool outfit an even more daunting task.

Everton drop a shock point at struggling Derby — so, though still runners-up, now trail their Merseyside rivals by five points, and have played two games more.

Down South, London Bridge — and Stamford Bridge — is certainly falling down! Chelsea crash to their tenth home defeat — and in a "four-point match" to follow strugglers Wolves — while Q.P.R. fail at West Bromwich.

For one season, anyway, it looks the end of the First Division road for these two.

A new-boy to look out for. With Joe Jordan declared unfit, 18-year-old Andy Ritchie gets barely an hour's notice to turn out for Manchester United — and roasts Leeds with a hat-trick in their 4-1 battering. And Leeds hadn't been beaten in the League for 16 games.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST SCORE: 5 — West Ham.
TOTAL GOALS: 105 (average 2.44 per game).
HAT-TRICKS: 1 — Ritchie (Manchester Utd. v. Leeds).
TABLE-TOPPERS: Div. 1, Liverpool; Div. 2, Brighton; Div. 3, Watford; Div. 4, Grimsby.
HIGHEST GATE: 51,191 (Manchester Utd. v. Leeds).
TOTAL GATE: 544,232.
AVERAGE GATE: 12,657.

CHAMPIONS OUT OF EUROPE

THE ground staff desperately try to make Ibrox playable for Wednesday's European Cup Quarter Final second-leg but heavy snow continues to fall ... The game with Cologne is put off.

Hundreds of volunteers — many of them schoolboys — swarm on to the pitch the next morning in a bid to help clear the snow ... their efforts are not in vain the game goes ahead. But that is the only good news.

Rangers, down by one goal from the first game, are hit by a killer blow three minutes after the interval. A hard-hit free-kick by Konopka is dummied by Flohe and Muller flicks it into the net. For minutes from time McLean takes a quick "free" and finds the net ... but it is too late for Rangers. They are out of the race ... 2-1 on aggregate.

On the Saturday a row breaks out over the cancellation of the Rangers v Celtic League match at Hampden. The ref says

the pitch is playable but owners Queens Park say the terracing is dangerous and that the game is off.

The game was to be played at Hampden because of re-building work at Ibrox. Instead Rangers play Thistle at Ibrox in the Semi-Final of the Glasgow Cup and draw 3-3. They win 4-3 on penalties.

Because of the weather only two Premier Division games are played.

★ SATURDAY SUMMARY ★

HIGHEST GATE: 8,000 St Mirren v Hibs.
PREM DIV TOTAL ATT.: 13,000
TOTAL GOALS (3 DIVS): 31
TABLE-TOPPERS: St Mirren.
HIGHEST SCORE: 4 Arbroath and Clydebank.



Barcelona bid for Bobby Robson.



Rangers in European Cup action against Cologne.

'I shall blaze a goal-trail next season'



End of season and Derek and his wife Marion relax at home with their TV Video game.

Tartan Talk DEREK JOHNSTONE

IT'S sort of weird not being involved in any football at the moment. It seems like years since I had a complete break from the game.

What am I doing at the moment? Taking a long, easy, welcome rest. I'm thinking of the forthcoming season and I'm looking forward to a successful one, too.

Where will I be playing? A lot of people have asked me that question. Last season I alternated between playing at centre-back and striker and consequently I didn't score anything like the goals I had netted the previous season.

I scored a total of 15 last term and that is just not good enough. I ended the previous programme with more than DOUBLE that!

So, obviously, I'm determined to bag a lot more in the coming season. I'm the sort of bloke who lives for his football, but I have got to be honest and say I am enjoying the rest at the moment.

I don't know how some players keep going. Honestly, look at all those players who are now playing in the States after a long, hard season in Britain. Take Trevor Francis for a start.

I don't think he's had a break in the last two or three years! He played in America last close season after a year of struggling to keep Birmingham City in the English First Division.

Then he came back and started

playing again for the St. Andrews club before his history-making £1 million move to Nottingham Forest. He went straight into their first team and ended the season by scoring the only goal of the European Cup Final against Malmo.

Then it was off to Bulgaria, Sweden and Austria with the English international team before moving on to America again. And when he returns he'll be right back in the

firing line again with Nottingham Forest.

It makes me tired just writing about it! Don't get me wrong, though. I'm definitely not knocking Francis playing in the States. You never know, I might try it myself some day.

But it is great just being able to sit back and relax and watch the television without a care in the world. I've watched the golf and the tennis

and I've really enjoyed it all.

I've even potted about the garden although I have to admit I don't think I've got greenfingers. Well, could you imagine a Rangers player with GREEN fingers!

I'm really getting toned-up at the moment and by the time the new season comes around I'll be rarin' to go. One thing I will be watching out for is Rangers' notorious slow start to the season.

For some reason or other we've hardly got off to the best of starts in recent years. We've left ourselves with a lot to do after a slack kick-off. Two seasons ago we started the League season with a 3-1 defeat from Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

Last season we started with a 1-0 defeat from St. Mirren at Ibrox. That is just not good enough and everyone at Ibrox will be making sure we get off to a flying start this time out. I certainly hope so, anyway!

That's all for this week. Take care and I'll see you all in a fortnight...

Derek Johnstone



Johnstone hopes to start scoring goals again like this one he grabbed for Rangers against Morton last season.

**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



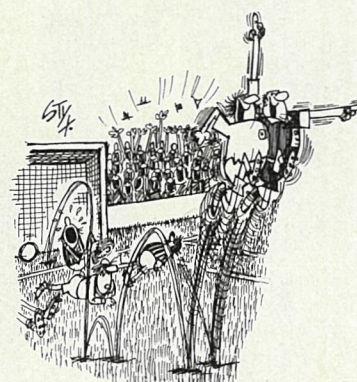
This week Ipswich Town's **ARNOLD MUHREN** selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



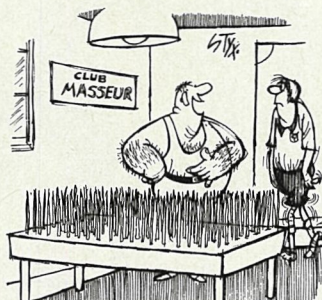
"Your Horoscope for today is fantastic — advises you to avoid crowds"



"Make my day if England won"



"Our two backs, skip — had a row about a bird and they aren't speaking"

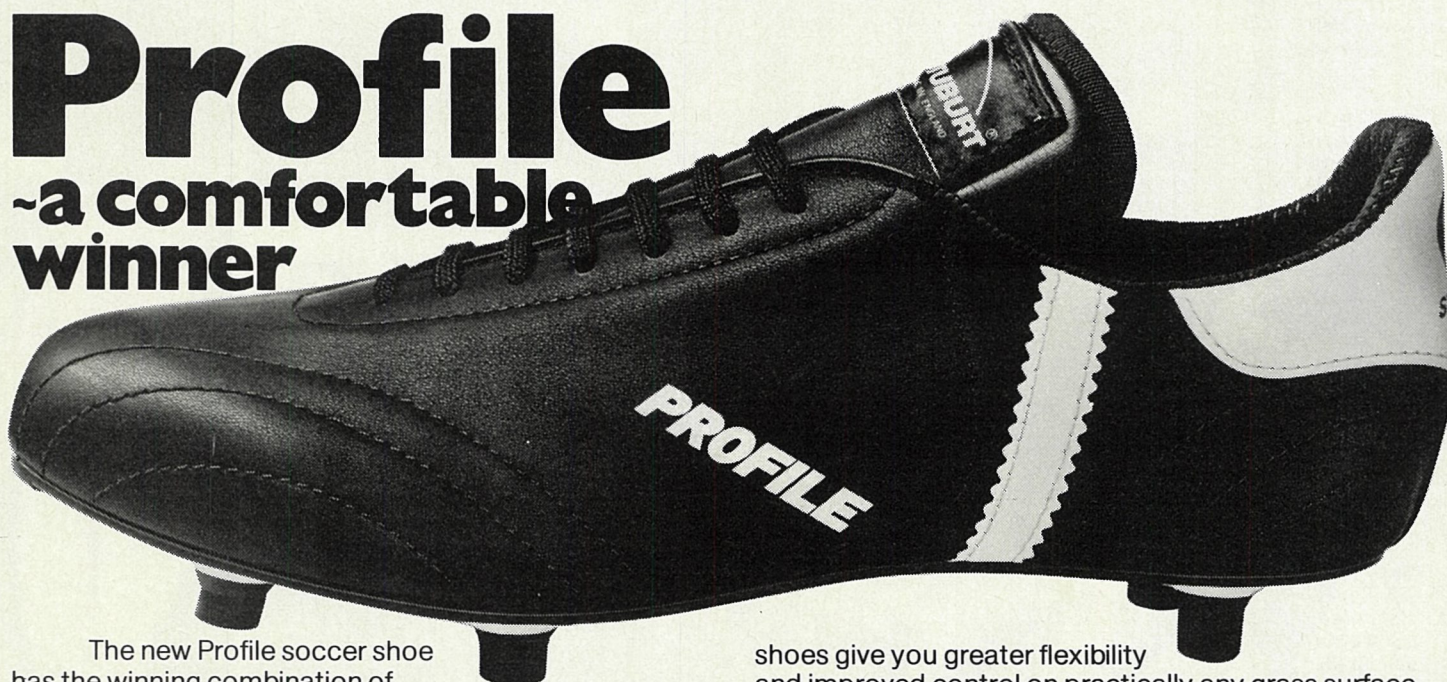


"Strict orders from the boss to toughen you lot up — put your flab on here"



"Honest ref, he gave me an old-fashioned full-blooded shoulder charge — then disintegrated"

Profile -a comfortable winner



The new Profile soccer shoe has the winning combination of lightness and comfort in leather. Featuring moulded or screw-in studs that prevent mud retention and give better stability, the Profile Range has seven good looking styles to choose from.

And, weighing from as little as 275gms, Profile soccer

shoes give you greater flexibility and improved control on practically any grass surface.

Available from your local sports footwear dealer, you'll find Profile a comfortable winner in all-round style and performance.

Profile is just one of the range of sports' footwear designed and manufactured by Stuburt of Bristol.



STUBURT SPORTS FOOTWEAR

Stuburt Sports Footwear Limited, Bridge Road, Kingswood, Bristol. Tel: 0272-568727



Laurie Cunningham comes away from Swedish fullback Borg.

FOLLOWING their fine 3-0 win in Bulgaria, England moved on to Sweden and Austria for two friendly internationals but returned with mixed fortunes. A 0-0 draw in Stockholm and a 4-3 defeat in Vienna saw England end the season on a somewhat low note, but their performance against Austria was memorable. It was as good as the performance in Stockholm was bad. England are going in the right direction, but it is as well to remember that they have lost what have been their two sternest tests — in West Germany and Austria.

MIXED FORTUNES



Phill Neal is about to be challenged by Austria's Kreuz.





Trevor Francis tries a shot against Sweden as defenders close in.

FOR ENGLAND



The captains exchange pennants... Kevin Keegan and Robert Sara in the Prater Stadium, Vienna.



Bob Latchford causes an anxious moment in Austria's goalmouth.

SHOOT!

DARLINGTON have hardly set the football world buzzing since their formation almost 100 years ago.

The highest League position they have achieved was 15th in the Second Division between the two World Wars and they suffered the misery of having to seek re-election at the end of last season.

They have never produced an international player and a leading football handbook highlights their spartan facilities at Feethams Ground as four nearby cafes and three snack bars.

So, The Quakers are not your genuine soccer pace-setters by any stretch of the imagination.

But if they lack charisma, they more than compensate for their deficiency in ambition.

And the club is clearly not crestfallen after coming 89th in the Football League last season.

Indeed, Darlington have the potential to hoist themselves into the Second Division.

The words of hope are chosen carefully by Len Walker (team picture, back row, extreme left), who was appointed manager last December and sacked last month.

Six months after his appointment and a few days after talking to SHOOT, Len Walker went the way of 14 other managers at Darlington since the War — sacked!

'Three players will put us right'

— LEN WALKER,
(later sacked)

Former Sunderland boss, Billy Elliott replaced him on June 9.

Before Walker's departure, he said "We were fourth from bottom of the League when I took over and we finished fourth from bottom at the end of the season."

"Not very impressive — and we have only ourselves to blame," says Walker, who was born in the town 35 years ago but moved on to play professional football for Middlesbrough, Newcastle and Aldershot.

"With three additions to the team we could win the Fourth Division. We always do well against the better teams, which suggests we have potential."

"We reached the last 32 in the F.A. Cup last season and were only beaten 1-0 away by Everton in the League Cup."

He believed before his sacking that the key to Darlington's resurrection was in the purchase of



three key players, a centre-half, midfield player and forward.

Walker, whose management career had been inspired by Brian Clough's elevation from Hartlepool to European Cup glory with Nottingham Forest, set himself an unofficial deadline of two seasons to fulfill his hopes. Darlington's directors thought otherwise.

"I've had time to sort out the bad players, there's money coming in from the highly successful lottery we run, and I'm happy not to sign a contract."

"I'm running a youth policy that I hope will reap rewards. In the past Darlington have nothing to do with the youngsters."

Len Walker had planned to run coaching evenings and had served notice of his intentions by signing 16-year-old Donald Ball, a centre-half, the first apprentice taken on by the club for ten years.

"Darlington could become a Second Division club," maintained Walker.

Sadly, he was given no time to achieve his ambitions.

Darlington, Doncaster, Halifax and Crewe propped-up 88 other clubs at the bottom of the League last season. They had to seek re-election but will tell you proudly they're . . .

DOWN BUT

'Kick me out if we fail'

— BILLY BREMNER

about something else," he says boldly.

"I have a three-year contract. If I don't get Doncaster promotion in that time, I'm a failure."

"I have got rid of 13 players who were really not good enough. I am hoping to sign four players before the start of the new season, a goalkeeper, defender, midfield player and front-runner."

"Then I will sit back and assess the situation again."

"It will be a young side. We cannot afford to go out and buy established stars."

Bremner's first eight months at Belle Vue Ground have been spent instilling pride in the club.

"That's what we had at Leeds and that's what I want here. Pride in performance; pride in the premises; pride in the club."

"For example, we've spent a month painting the ground. We've extended the dug-out and panelled the medical room."

"The dressing-rooms have got to be spot-on and the attitude of players has got to be right."

"When I arrived some players were going through the motions. 'If we win we win. If we are

beaten, so what?' That was the attitude."

"I only want winners, but I want Doncaster to win in style. I want the club to play positive, exciting football. We will attack. Players will want to go forward. Nobody wants to play defensive football — and no one will watch it."

Bremner has been given "a little" money to spend on new players but no less than he expected from a club that came 90th in the League last season.

He stresses that he wants to unearth local talent. He announced a youth policy on his arrival but the four or five local players who came to the club did not fit his requirements.

But he intends to keep trying. He has entered an Under-19 team in the Intermediate League next season. Doncaster have not competed in that League for four years.

"I want the youngsters to get into winning ways," he says. "I have inherited potential in bringing on one or two promising lads, but to be realistic it's no more than that at the moment."

Darryl Pugh, 18, a winger; Dave Cork, 19, a midfield player; Glyn Snowdon, 18, a forward; and Stephan Lister, 17, a centre-half, were all fine young players.

"I think they'll make it but can be no more precise than that," says Bremner. "At Leeds we had tremendous talent but many of them faded. They didn't want to play anymore, they didn't work at their

game. They wanted the limelight too fast."

Bremner wants to increase Doncaster's average gate from 3,000 to 10,000.

"People have been disillusioned in the past. I am no Messiah but I want to give them a club the fans can be proud of. We have been too complacent with our supporters."

"Spectators are the heart of the club. They want to be entertained. I knew it would be a hard job when I took it on. In the short time I've been here I've had some success and I've had some failures."

"I made a mistake at Bournemouth last season. I gave the lads a rollicking at half-time when we were 1-0 down, and we finished-up losing 7-0."

"I try to give constructive criticism and I insist on total effort. I am setting my stall out to get into the Third Division. That's my aim."

Bremner, the former Scotland and Leeds captain, makes no apologies for wanting to progress in management. His long term ambition is to run a First Division club.

His style of running a club is modelled on no one. "I'm my own man," he says emphatically, but he confesses to a high regard for Don Revie, the former England and Leeds manager, and Jock Stein, currently in charge of Scotland.

With standards set that high, only a brave man would question Billy Bremner's ability to achieve his exciting objective at Doncaster.

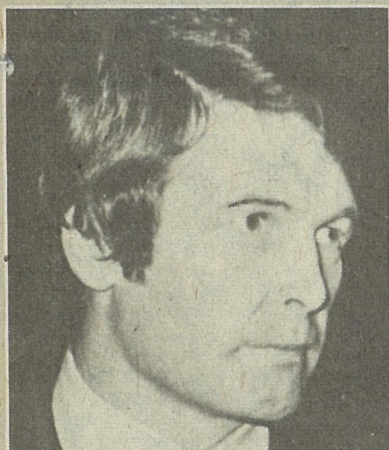


BILLY Bremner will consider himself a failure if he does not pilot Doncaster to promotion from the Fourth Division before his contract runs out in just over two years time.

The battling Scot, well remembered for his never-say-die spirit as a highly competitive midfield player during Leeds United's golden run under Don Revie, is bringing the same strength of purpose to bear in attempting to guide Doncaster to better times.

They had to seek re-election to the League after coming third from bottom of the Fourth Division at the end of last season. There was never much doubt that the Yorkshire club with strong soccer traditions would retain their League status but Bremner is far from complacent about his role in rescuing them after moving into the manager's chair in November, 1978.

"If I don't succeed I will think



**'Just watch
us go
next season'**

— **GEORGE KIRBY**

IF Halifax had been invited to field their first team in mid-June they would have struggled to fill their ten outfield shirts.

Manager George Kirby had pruned the club's professional strength to just seven players in one of the biggest clear-outs in the club's history at the end of a disastrous season.

But if the Halifax faithful believe that Kirby's office at the Shay Ground is shrouded in despondency and gloom they would be seriously mistaken.

Kirby is more buoyant now than when he first managed the club after taking over from Alan Ball senior in 1970-71.

"We're starting afresh. There's optimism in the camp. I am looking for a squad of 16-17 players, two of whom will be goalkeepers.

"I have six transfer deals in the pipeline, some of them at a price. My board have given me £45,000

to spend, which is not much more than a First Division player's salary.

"But this is no worse than I expected. Fortunately, we have started a lottery that has done exceptionally well thanks to a professional promoter who was appointed last November, the month I joined the club.

"Some of the money I've been given to spend has come from the lottery.

"I am looking for a balance of players, some that cost money, others on free transfer.

"I hope to sign a defender, who at 33 is considered too old for First Division football. I offered £10,000 for a Fourth Division defender, aged 27. I offered another £10,000 for a striker with a First Division club. He is 19, not considered good enough for the top Division, but will be good enough for me.

"I was hoping to sign a local youngster named Ashley Burrows. Highly talented this lad, but he's chosen to go to Leeds. I think I arrived too late to persuade him to come here and start his professional career at this level.

"So many youngsters go to the big clubs and blow-out. Two seasons in the Fourth Division can be valuable experience for a newcomer."

But Kirby is delighted with the development of Michael Kennedy, a midfielder, now wanted by a string of First Division clubs.

"I am trying to develop our scouting system, so that we attract more like him.

"I want our players to enjoy their football. A few weeks ago I had to cancel a boy's contract because he was drinking on Friday nights. It's a serious step to sack someone but it had to be done. I gave him a statutory number of warnings but was influenced also by his abrasive attitude off the field.

"We must be professional, and so must I. That's why I shall resign if I don't get some improvement in the new season."

George Kirby clearly has the capacity to spot talent. He signed Ross Jenkins, Watford's free scoring striker, for £25,000 when he was manager at Vicarage Road. He also bought goalkeeper Andy Rankin for £10,000.

He managed Icelandic League team Akranes for four years, taking them to two Championships and three Cup Finals.

"I take every opportunity to pick the brains of our distinguished men of football, people like Bill Nicholson, Ted Bates and Bill Shankly.

"I am impressed, too, by the unsung heroes, managers like Doug Collins, who put Rochdale on a much better footing after taking over in January this year.

"Yes, I have good reason to predict a big improvement at Halifax next season."

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P	T
Darlington.....	46	8	8	7	25	21	3	7	13	24	45	37	
Doncaster.....	46	8	8	7	25	22	5	3	15	25	51	37	
Halifax.....	46	7	5	11	24	32	2	3	18	15	40	26	
Crewe.....	46	3	7	13	24	41	3	7	13	19	49	26	

FAR FROM OUT!

HEARDED the one about the soccer fan who rang his local Fourth Division club for some information?

"What time's kick-off?" enquired the fan. "What time can you make it?" replied the club official.

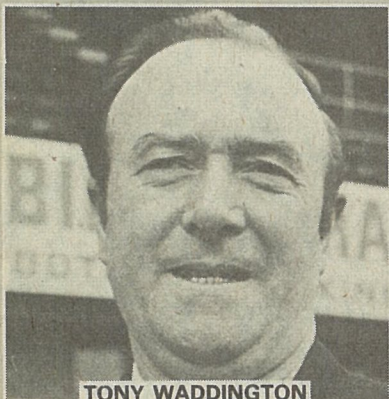
An old music-hall joke about a club where the players outnumbered the spectators.

It is a sad fact of soccer life that some clubs have to lose. Sadder still that some make a habit of losing more regularly than others.

For every successful Liverpool or Nottingham Forest, there are many with bare trophy cabinets, empty terraces, and peeling paintwork.

SHOOT decided to find out whether it was all gloom in the lower reaches of the Football League by putting the spotlight on Darlington, Doncaster, Halifax and Crewe, the four clubs forced to seek re-election at the end of last season.

Our investigation unveiled a surprising reaction from the clubs...



TONY WADDINGTON

**'We'll attract
star names now'**

— **KENNETH DOVE**

CREWE were the Football League's "wooden spoonists" after coming bottom of the Fourth Division at the end of last season.

It was their worst playing season for five years after coming through a period in which their financial plight threatened them with extinction.

But if the corpse was growing colder by the month after Harry Gregg's departure, it has been

given a glorious shot in the arm this summer by the appointment of Tony Waddington, one of football's most distinguished managers.

"We have gone for Tony because of his tremendous managerial record," explains Kenneth Dove, Crewe's hard working secretary.

"Warwick Rimmer will be his assistant after taking over on a temporary basis from Harry Gregg, who left to go to Manchester United. Warwick had little opportunity to make headway and wasn't really in a position to sign players.

"He tried to make the best of a bad job. Now, we can look forward with optimism to a better season. In April 1978 we were £180,000 in debt. We started our lottery that same month and have made £100,000.

"Tony Waddington had a great track record in 17 years as manager of Stoke. He attracted a lot of stars to the club, which until his arrival was rather unfashionable.

"He has similar plans for Crewe. It will be difficult for him to break the ice but we're hopeful that one or two household names will be playing for Crewe in the not too distant future.

"It was Tony Waddington who persuaded Stanley Matthews to return to Stoke from Blackpool. Other stars followed the winger there and there is no reason why this can't be achieved at Crewe.

"Footballers are not so hungry

as they were, so it will be more difficult, but I see no reason why we couldn't enlist the services of a big name player-coach.

"It is not inconceivable for Crewe to become a steady Second Division side in five years time.

"We are looking for six new professionals to start the season, two 'name' players and four youngsters.

"My hope is that Crewe could do what Burnley have achieved for a small town.

"Burnley's youth policy paid handsome dividends. We want to do the same. Some of the best youngsters in the past came from the hungry areas of the North-East. Their bellies were empty. They wanted to play football.

"Nowadays, a youngster can pick up reasonable money without having to do much for it. A footballer's life is a hard one. Some lads don't relish the hard work.

"We even notice lads cheating in 90 minutes football, not working hard enough, not contributing."

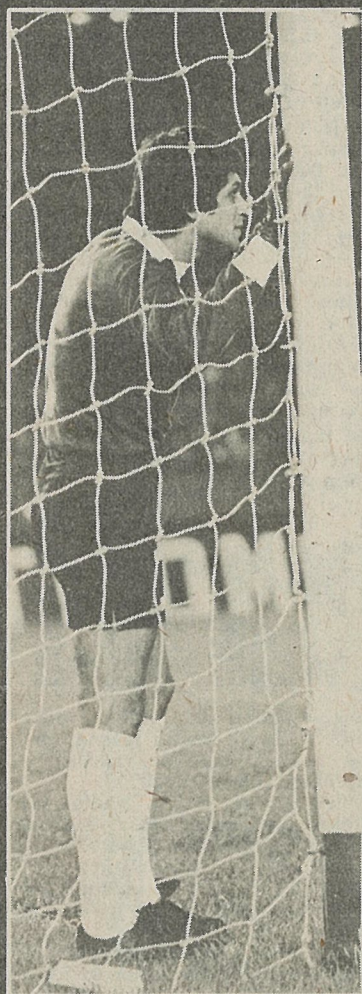
Tony Waddington is no stranger to Crewe. He played for the club shortly after the last War. He was recruited after drifting into the ground as a naval rating to watch a match. Waddington became one of the best half-backs the club has fielded.

With roots as strong as that, Crewe's loyal fans can look forward to major improvements as the club attempt to launch a campaign for promotion next season.

'Top goalkeeper essential for success'

says **UBALDO FILLOL**

of World Champions Argentina



YOU won't find anyone around Liverpool or Nottingham who'd agree, but in Argentina they rate Ubaldo Fillol as the best goalkeeper in the world. Even so, supporters of Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton would concede that the Argentina goalie had a magnificent World Cup, making a number of crucial saves.

Perhaps the most vital was against Poland, when he saved Deyna's admittedly weak penalty. From then, the man nicknamed Pato went from strength to strength and in the Final made two saves that turned the game.

Fillol has been one of the few World Cup winners to maintain his form in the League, for River Plate. He also distinguished himself in the recent rematch against Holland in Berne, by saving Jan Peters' penalty which gave Argentina victory again.

Yet until he was 16, Pato wasn't even a goalkeeper.

"I used to wear the number five shirt," he says. "I was with

Quilmes at the time and for some reason or another they needed a goalkeeper for one of their teams. I played, enjoyed it, and I've been between the sticks ever since."

Fillol was born in Montes, in the province of Buenos Aires, on July 21st, 1951. After Quilmes, he moved on to Racing when he was 21 and then to River Plate the following year.

He came into the Argentina squad five years ago. "I had a problem with César Menotti which I'm not going to tell you about because I want to forget it. He said he wasn't going to pick me again.

"When he was planning his World Cup squad a lot of people were putting my name forward. I was playing well for River and the Press were giving me good write-ups.

"Menotti asked me to play and I accepted his invitation. There were no conditions attached; I was just a member of the squad. I considered it my duty as an Argentine to help my country."

Hugo Gatti was Menotti's first choice goalkeeper, but a knee injury forced Gatti to miss many matches and Fillol took his chance well.

"I reckon I had a fairly consistent World Cup. I was very nervous. Playing in the competition is enough to make any player have butterflies, but as hosts we had extra pressures.

"It's not for me to say whether I'm the best goalkeeper in the world. What I always have done is to work towards being the best.

"Of the other goalies in the World Cup, I admired Sweden's Ronnie Hellström the most."

As we enter the last few months of the Seventies, it has become apparent that to succeed in football a top-class goalkeeper is essential.

"Goalkeepers have become more important in recent years. We have extra responsibilities now. For instance, we have to be defenders at times, rushing out of our area to clear. You rarely saw this a few seasons ago.

"Goalkeepers are born, not

made. The skills are something they are blessed with naturally. I started late, but the technique must have been there all the time. You can turn a defender into a midfielder or a forward into a full-back, but you can't make anyone a goalkeeper.

"I like to think I gave Argentina confidence during the World Cup. We placed the emphasis on attack so we were bound to be caught out at the back occasionally. I hope the rest of the players thought they could rely on me."

Last year, there was a whisper that Manchester United were interested in buying Fillol and captain Daniel Passarella.

"I heard about this, but didn't speak to anyone. I've had a lot of problems with River concerning my contract. At one time I was even dropped from the summer tour of Europe because of it. I hope I can sort something out soon. If I can't, I don't think they'll be a shortage of bidders.

"Playing in England would definitely interest me. I don't blame our players for going abroad — how can you criticise someone for wanting to better themselves? Ours is a short career and we must take advantage of any situation that comes our way."

Fillol was happy with Argentina's form in Europe.

"It was obvious how much teams wanted to beat us now we're Champions. For example, we considered the game against the Republic of Ireland would be quite easy, but we were wrong. Still, it's very flattering and I think we showed people we can do well outside of our own country.

"We are already building for the 1982 World Cup. It would have been fatal had Menotti left. He's the best coach in the world — more than just a coach, a wonderful person. If we continue with what we call the process, I'm sure we can defend our title successfully.

"My ambition is to play in Spain and then retire."



Fillol stretches to save Deyna's penalty during Argentina's 1978 World Cup-tie with Poland.

PLAYERS GO TO JAIL~TO PLAY!

It was quite a surprise in Peru when it was found out some of the Under-21 players who played in the South American Championship in Uruguay, had used false passports and that they had passed the age limit (World Wide, June 16th).

After the false documents were discovered, the players, the manager of the team and authorities involved were asked to appear before the judge in charge of the case, Dr. Marrull.

Falla and Malasquez, two of the players, failed to turn up and were arrested one day after training. While in prison the two players were treated very well and even played in a football Championship with the rest of the prisoners.

One amusing incident which caused a few laughs, happened

after the players had left prison and were back training with the Peruvian team. They asked for time off training to go back to jail and play in the Final of the Championship!

After hearing that Falla and Malasquez had been sent to prison the rest of the professional footballers decided to take action. They protested by stopping all the professional Football League matches for two minutes. But players from Atlético Chalaco and Sport Boys, two teams from Callao, carried the matter a little too far.

After the two minutes were over the players refused to restart the game and the referee abandoned the match. Play continued afterwards under an amateur League referee. As Sport Boys won

1-0, they claimed the match was valid. But the Peruvian F.A. has disallowed the match and Boys and Chalaco are to play again later this season.

All the players involved in the scandal have returned to their teams and it doesn't seem as though their careers will be affected. On the other hand it was expected both the President of the Peruvian F.A., Agustín Ciccía, and the head of the INRED (National Institute of Sport and Recreation), Augusto Galvez, would resign. Both are still hanging on to their jobs.

Most people sympathise with the players involved in the scandal. And they have a good reason. Some of the players are completely ignorant about legal affairs and there is no way they could

have realised the passports were false. *El Comercio*, a leading Lima newspaper, has justified the whole incident by claiming that 'every other country uses false documents some time or other, so why can't we?'

Although the case is still going on, coverage by the Press is dying down. The public opinion is that as so many important people are involved, the case will end in nothing. They may be right. Dr. Marrull claims that the investigations will go on until everything is clear, but he will be fighting a very lonely battle.

It would be good for Peru's football reputation if Dr. Marrull does discover the real culprits. Peruvian football has a hard earned good name and it would be a shame to throw it all away.

MRS CRUYFF DECIDES...

As you know, Johan Cruyff decided to join the Los Angeles Aztecs instead of the Cosmos, a move which surprised quite a few as the Cosmos usually get their man. Johan has said he wanted the challenge of putting West Coast soccer on the map and likes working with his "usual" manager, Rhinus Michels.

I hear the main reason for going to Los Angeles is that his wife, Danny, refused point blank to live in New York. There is also a whisper that the Cosmos helped finance Cruyff's signing for the Aztecs in order to create some opposition for them, in the belief the fans will become bored if the same outfit keeps winning easily.

A successful Los Angeles Aztecs wouldn't affect the Cosmos's attendances, of course. And with the Aztecs Cruyff is the big star, while in New York he would have been just another top star.

All very interesting...



The Cruyff family.

WORLD WIDE

COMPILED BY CHRIS DAVIES

AJAX players didn't exactly receive a fortune for winning the Double. They were paid a bonus of £1,350 for beating FC Twente in the Cup, and just £500 extra for winning the League.

WHISTLES EVERYWHERE

DO you remember seeing the amusing sequence on The Big Match from Holland when Haarlem coach Barry Hughes blew a paper-whistle at AZ '67 coach George Kessler? It was rather comical, although Kessler didn't see the funny side of it, and even considered taking Hughes to court.

Perhaps Kessler has calmed down, because when the two teams met again at the end of the season, all AZ fans were given... paper-whistles to blow at Hughes as he took to the pitch!

And to cap it all, a special presentation was made, Hughes being given a silver whistle!



THIS FAN ISN'T LOCO!

MY award for the Most Enterprising Fan of the season goes to this Swiss train driver who watched the European Cup-Winners' Cup Final by parking his locomotive on the track which surrounds the St Jakob Stadium in Basle.

STARTING FROM SCRATCH

IN RIO, the Bangu fans emptied a tin of itching powder on the Vasco players as they were coming out to the field. The players had to return to the dressing-room for showers and a change of kit before starting the match, which kicked-off half an hour late. This did not help the Bangu team who lost at home 3-0.

SARRAMANGA RETURNS

REMEMBER Christian Sarramanga? The odds are you don't! He was the Saint-Etienne winger who kept slinging over those dangerous crosses from the left during the French club's unlucky 0-1 defeat by Bayern Munich in the 1976 European Cup Final played in Glasgow. Anyway, the balding 27-year-old had a leg broken in two places by Rouen defender Amouret back in February, 1978, and is just struggling back into action after 16 months on the sidelines.

FOLLOWING a disappointing season, Anderlecht have replaced manager Raymond Goethals with Urbain Braems, from SC Lokeren. Braems was manager of Anderlecht four years ago.

SEVERAL Brazilian players are said to be on the move to European clubs. Abel, the centre-back of Vasco, is negotiating with Paris Saint Germain and Gil, Brazil's World Cup outside-right is negotiating with a Belgian club whose name has not been disclosed — Olympic of Marseilles are also said to have made an offer.

MORE SEATS

BARCELONA are planning to increase their Nou Camp Stadium's capacity to 120,000 by adding another tier to the top of the stands. They aim to have the work done in time for the 1982 World Cup and are hoping to finance the project by persuading 20,000 fans to pay £375 apiece for an advance option on the new seats. They'll then be given "free" season-tickets for the next five seasons in exchange.

SHAKEN BUT NOT STIRRED

MARCO Antonio, the full-back who was a reserve in Brazil's 1970 World Cup squad, felt so tired the other night going home, he decided to park the car and sleep in it. He had stayed up all night talking to a friend and, at five o'clock in the morning he had driven a relative to the airport. On the way back, he pulled up by a kerb and decided to take a nap.

But he was so tired that he slept on, even after the sun was up, lying on the back seat of the car. People passing by on their way to work began to wonder whether the man was alive or dead, whether he had been mugged or even murdered by some criminals! Someone recognised him — "it is Marco Antonio, the football player" — and the police were called.

At first they tried to knock on the windows, but as the body lying inside did not even stir they finally broke the glass. Marco Antonio woke up with a start, and hastily explained what had happened. He departed saying: "I'm late for our training. The worst of it is that the car is not mine. I borrowed it from a team-mate!"

RADNICKI Nisch goalkeeper Dragan Pantelic has set a Yugoslav record, playing for 540 minutes without being beaten. The previous record was 532 minutes held by Miodraga Knezevica... the coach at Nisch.

RESULTS... SCORERS... TEAM LINE-UPS

MONDAY, MAY 14

FIRST DIVISION

CHELSEA (1) 1 (Stanley)
ARSENAL (0) 1 (Macdonald) 28,386
 Chelsea: Bonetti; Chivers, Harris, Bannon, Droy, Sittin, Stanley, Aylott, Osgood, Langley, Walker.
 Arsenal: Jennings; Rice, Nelson, Talbot, O'Leary, Young, Brady, Vaessen, Macdonald, Devine, Rix.

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 (Villa)
W.B.A. (0) 0 24,789
 Tottenham: Aleksic; Lee, Smith, Lacy, McAlister, Perryman, Pratt, Ardiles, Jones, Hoddle, Villa.
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Trewick, Wile, Mills, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Cunningham.

SECOND DIVISION

CARDIFF (1) 1 (Buchanan)
WREXHAM (0) 0 11,910
 Cardiff: Healey; Jones, Sullivan, Campbell, Roberts, Dwyer, Grapes, Evans, Moore, Stevens, Buchanan.
 Wrexham: Davies; Cegielski, Dwyer, Jones (J), Roberts, Giles, Shinton, Sutton, Lyons, Buxton (Whittle), Fox.

MILLWALL (0) 2 (Mehmet, Chatterton)
WEST HAM (1) 1 (Robson) 11,917
 Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory (Mehmet), Chambers, Kitchener, Coleman, Towner, Seaman, Tagg, Walker, Chatterton.
 West Ham: Parkes; Lampard, Brush, Bonds, Martin, Taylor (T), Holland, Devonshire, Cross, Brooking, Robson.

OLDHAM (1) 2 (Chapman pen., Heaton)
BURNLEY (0) 0 7,791
 Oldham: McDonnell; Keegan, Edwards, Halom, Hicks, Hurst, Hilton, Stainrod, Young (Jordan), Chapman, Heaton.
 Burnley: Stevenson; Scott, Brennan, Noble, Thomson, Robinson, Jakub, Ingham, Kindon, Morley, James.

THIRD DIVISION

GILLINGHAM (2) 2 (Price, Funnell)
EXETER (0) 0 8,788
 Gillingham: Hillyard; Young, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Hughes, Nicholl (White), Armstrong, Price, Westwood, Funnell.
 Exeter: Main; Templeman, Hore, Randell, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Bowker, Sims (Ireland), Delve, Hatch.

MANSFIELD (0) 1 (Miller)
OXFORD (0) 1 (Graydon) 4,138
 Mansfield: New; Dawkins, Foster (B), Foster (C), Saxby (M), Bird, Allen, Saxby (G) (McClelland), Austin, Hamilton, Miller.
 Oxford: Burton; McIntosh, Watson, Briggs, Bodel, Jeffrey, Graydon, Taylor, Foley, Seacole, Duncan.

ROTHERHAM (2) 4 (Finney, Smith pen., Phillips, Waddington o.g.)
WALSALL (0) 1 (Waddington) 1,996
 Rotherham: McAlister; Forrest, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Finney, Phillips, Young, Carr, Smith.
 Walsall: Green; Mower, Caswell, King, Serella, Sbragia, Birch, Waddington, Syrett, Williams, Kelly.

WATFORD (1) 4 (Joslyn, Jenkins, Bolton pen., Blissett)
HULL (0) 0 26,397
 Watford: Sherwood; Stirk, Harrison, Booth, Bolton, Garner, Blissett, Train, Jenkins, Joslyn, Downes.
 Hull: Wealands; Nisbet, Roberts, Skipper, McDonald, Haigh, Hawker, Horswill, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

FOURTH DIVISION

DARLINGTON 0
NORTHAMPTON 0 1,333
 Darlington: Ower; Nattress, Crosson, Hedley, Craig, Seal, Maitland, Wann, Peachey, Stone, Walsh.
 Northampton: Poole; Reilly, Geidmintis, Saunders, Waldoock, Farrington, Williams, Bowen, Matthews, McCaffrey, Froggatt.

HALIFAX (1) 2 (Firth, Johnson pen.)
HARTLEPOOL (3) 4 (Lawrence 4) 1,012

Halifax: Kilner; Dunleavy, Hutt, Bradley, Burke (Smith), Trainer, Firth, Kennedy, Mountford, Johnson, Stafford.
 Hartlepool: Watson; Goldthorpe, Gorry, Smith (G), Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Lawrence, Houchen, Harding, Loadwich.

WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Downes)
BARNLEY (0) 1 (Chambers) 5,794
 Wimbledon: Goddard; Perkins, Eames (Knowles), Galliers, Bowgett, Cunningham, Leslie, Briley, Downes, Cork, Parsons.
 Barnley: Springett; Collins, Chambers, Speedie, Saunders, McCarthy, Little, Riley, Graham, Millar, Bell.

YORK (0) 1 (Wellings)
STOCKPORT (0) 0 2,098
 York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Stronach, Wellings, McDonald, Randall.
 Stockport: Lawson; Halford, Rutter, Thorpe, Smith, Henson, Galvin, Summerbee, Armstrong, Bradd, Lee.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

CELTIC (0) 1 (Conroy)
HEARTS (0) 0 18,000
 Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch (Lennox), Aitken, McAdam, Edvasson, Provan, Conroy, McCluskey, McLeod, Doyle.
 Hearts: Allan; Kidd, Black, Moore, Liddell, Brown, O'Sullivan (Jeffries), Fraser, Gibson, Stewart, McLeod (Scott).

TUESDAY, MAY 15

FIRST DIVISION

LEEDS (0) 1 (Cherry)
NOTT FOREST (1) 2 (Mills, Hawley o.g.) 33,544
 Leeds: Harvey; Hird, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Harris (E. Gray), Cherry, Hawley, Currie, Graham.
 Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Clark (Needham), O'Hare, Lloyd, Burns, Mills, Francis, Birtles, Bowyer, Robertson.



Garry Stanley gave Chelsea the lead in their 1-1 draw against Arsenal at Stamford Bridge.

MAN. CITY (1) 2 (Deyna 2)
ASTON VILLA (0) 3 (Cropley, Mortimer, Deehan) 30,028
 Man. C: Corrigan; Ranson, Donachie, Henry, Watson (Palmer), Bell, Channon, Viljoen, Silkman, Hartford, Deyna.
 Villa: Rimmer; Gidman, Gibson, Gregory, McNaught, Mortimer, Shelton, Little, Deehan, Cropley, Swain.

THIRD DIVISION

BLACKPOOL (2) 5 (Chandler, Malone, McEwan pen., Hockaday, Spence)
SWINDON (1) 2 (Aizlewood, Carter) 4,191
 Blackpool: Hesford; Malone, Weston, Thompson, Suddaby (Garner), McEwan, Hockaday, Kellow, Spence, Ronson, Chandler.
 Swindon: Allen; Trollope, Ford, McHale, Aizlewood, Stroud, Miller (Williams), Carter, Rowland, Mayes, Bayes.

BURY (2) 2 (Gregory, Taylor)
BRENTFORD (1) 3 (Phillips 2, McCulloch) 2,152
 Bury: Latchford; Ritson, Constantine, Lugg, Whitehead, Madden, Stanton, Wilson, Johnson, Gregory, Taylor.
 Brentford: Bond; Shrubbs, Tucker, McNichol, Kruse, Fraser, Carlton, Glover (Alder), Smith, McCulloch, Phillips.

FOURTH DIVISION

PORTSMOUTH (1) 1 (Garwood)
ALDERSHOT (1) 1 (Dungworth) 6,238
 Portsmouth: Mellor; James, Viney, McIlwraith, Ellis, Davey, Barnard, Lathan, Garwood, Showers, Bryant.
 Aldershot: Johnson; Scott, Wooler, Dixon, Youlden, Jopling, Crosby, Brodie, Shanahan, Dungworth, Tomlin.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

FIRST DIVISION

MAN. UTD (1) 1 (Coppell)
CHELSEA (1) 1 (Johnson) 38,119
 Man. U: Bailey; Albiston, Houston, McIlroy, McQueen, Nicholl, Coppell, Greenhoff (J), Jordan, McCreery (Grimes), Thomas.
 Chelsea: Borota; Wilkins (G), Harris, Bannon, Sittin, Chivers, Bumstead, Aylott, Johnson, Langley, Walker.

SCOTTISH CUP FINAL replay

RANGERS 0
HIBS 0 at Hampden Park 33,504
 Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Johnstone, Jackson, MacDonald, McLean (Miller), Russell, Parlane, Smith, Cooper.
 Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Duncan, Bremner, Stewart, McNamara, Rae, MacLeod, Campbell, Callachan, Higgins (Brown).

THURSDAY, MAY 17

FIRST DIVISION

LEEDS (0) 0
LIVERPOOL (2) 3 (Johnson 2, Case) 41,324
 Leeds: Harvey; Hird, Gray (F), Flynn, Hart, Madeley, Harris, Cherry, Hawley, Gray (E), Graham.
 Liverpool: Clemence; Neal, Kennedy (A), Thompson, Kennedy (R), Hansen, Dalglish, Case, Johnson, McDermott, Souness.

SECOND DIVISION

MILLWALL (0) 2 (Kitchener, Mehmet)
WREXHAM (0) 2 (Lyons, Whittle) 4,865
 Millwall: Cuff; Donaldson, Gregory, Chambers, Kitchener, Coleman, Towner, Seaman, Tagg, Walker, Mehmet.
 Wrexham: Niedzwiecki; Cegielski, Dwyer, Jones (J), Roberts, Giles, Shinton, Griffiths (Whittle), Lyons, Buxton, Fox.

THIRD DIVISION

SHREWSBURY (3) 4 (King 2, Atkins pen., Tong)
EXETER (1) 1 (Delve) 14,441
 Shrewsbury: Mulhearn; King, Larkin, Cross, Griffin, Keay, Lindsay, Atkins, Tong, Biggins, Maguire.
 Exeter: Main; Templeman, Hore, Randell, Giles, Roberts, Neville, Rogers, Pearson, Delve, Hatch.

SHEFF. WED (2) 2 (Porterfield, Owen)
BLACKPOOL (0) 0 7,310
 Sheff W: Bolder; Shirliff, Grant, Mullen, Pickering, Taylor, Owen, Porterfield, Fleming, Nimmo, Hornsby (Sterland).
 Blackpool: Hesford; Gardner, Weston (Wilson), Thompson, May, McEwan, Hockaday, Kellow, Jones, Ronson, Chandler.

FOURTH DIVISION

HARTLEPOOL (0) 2 (Lawrence, Ayre)
NORTHAMPTON (0) 0 1,753
 Hartlepool: Watson; Goldthorpe, Gorry, Hogan, Brooks, Ayre, Linacre, Lawrence, Houchen, Warding (Norton), Loadwich.
 Northampton: Poole; Geidmintis, Saunders, Reilly, Waldoock, Farrington, Williams, Matthews, McCaffrey (Perkins), Bowen, Froggatt.



Peter McCloy kept goal for Rangers in their Scottish Cup-tie against Hibs.

WIMBLEDON (1) 2 (Stone o.g., Cunningham)
DARLINGTON (0) 0 3,638
 Wimbledon: Goddard; Perkins, Haverson, Galliers, Harwood, Cunningham, Ketteridge, Briley, Dziadulewicz, Cork, Downes.
 Darlington: Owers; Crosson, Cochrane, Nattress, Craig, Stone, Hedley, Wann, Hague (Walsh), Peachey, Seal.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

FIRST DIVISION

W.B.A. (0) 0
NOTT FOREST (0) 1 (Francis) 28,246
 W.B.A.: Godden; Batson, Statham, Brown (T), Wile, Mills, Robson, Brown (A), Regis, Cantello, Trewick.
 Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Bowyer, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, O'Hare, Francis, Birtles, Woodcock, Robertson.

FOURTH DIVISION

CREWE (0) 1 (Nelson pen.)
ROCHDALE (1) 2 (Jones, Hilditch) 2,036
 Crewe: Caswell; Wilkinson, Purdie, Rimmer, Dulson, Roberts (Wilshaw), Bevan, Robertson, Coyne, Nelson, Warnock.
 Rochdale: Felgate; Hallows, Snookes, Oliver (Creamer), Bannon, Taylor, Hoy, Esser, Jones, O'Loughlin, Hilditch.

HALIFAX (0) 2 (Bradley 2)
SCUNTHORPE (1) 3 (Gibson, Grimes, Couch) 1,037
 Halifax: Kilner; Hutt, Dunleavy, Smith, Trainer, Bradley, Firth, Kennedy, Mountford, Johnson, Stafford (Johnston).
 Scunthorpe: Crawford; Davy, Peacock, Oates, Deere, Hall, Grimes, Kilmore, Couch, Kavanagh, Gibson.



Barry Kitchener scored one of Millwall's goals in their 2-2 home draw over Wrexham.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

N. IRELAND (0) 0

ENGLAND (2) 2 (Watson, Coppell) at Windsor Park 35,000

N. Ireland: Jennings (Arsenal); Rice (Arsenal), Nelson (Arsenal), Nicholl (J) (Man. Utd), Nicholl (C) (Southampton), Moreland (Derby) (sub: McGrath (Man. Utd)), Hamilton (Swindon), McIlroy (Man. Utd), Armstrong (Tottenham), Caskey (Derby), Cochrane (Middlesbrough) (sub: Spence (Blackpool)).

England: Clemence (Liverpool); Neal (Liverpool), Thompson (Liverpool), Watson (Man. City), Mills (Ipswich), Wilkins (Chelsea), McDermott (Liverpool), Currie (Leeds), Coppell (Man. Utd), Latchford (Everton), Barnes (Man. City).

WALES (2) 3 (Toshack 3)

SCOTLAND (0) 0 at Ninian Park 20,371

Wales: Davies (Wrexham); Stevenson (Leeds), Dwyer (Cardiff), Phillips (Swansea), Jones (Wrexham), Flynn (Leeds), Yorath (Coventry) (sub: Nicholas (C. Palace)), Mahoney (Middlesbrough), Curtis (Swansea), Toshack (Swansea), James (Swansea).

Scotland: Rough (Partick); Burley (Ipswich), Hegarty (Dundee Utd), Hansen (Liverpool), Gray (F) (Leeds), Wark (Ipswich), Hartford (Man. City), Souness (Liverpool), Wallace (Coventry) (sub: Jordan (Man. Utd)), Dalgligh (Liverpool), Graham (Leeds), McGarry (Liverpool), (sub: McGarvey (Liverpool)).

THIRD DIVISION

BURY (0) 1 (Wilson)

PETERBOROUGH (0) 0 2,298

Bury: Latchford; Ritson, Constantine, Lugg, Tucker, Whitehead, Mullen, Wilson, Beamish, Gregory, Taylor.

Peterborough: Waugh; Byatt, Collins, Chard, Smith, Ross, Gynn, McEwan, Sargent, Guy, Cliss.

CHESTERFIELD (0) 0

GILLINGHAM (1) 2 (Westwood, Funnell) 2,802

Chesterfield: Tingay; Tartt, Burton, Flavell, O'Neill, Prohett, Kowalski, Moss, Fern (Darden), Hunter, Walker.

Gillingham: Hillyard; Young, Barker, Overton, Weatherley, Hughes, Nicholl, Armstrong, Richardson, Westwood, Funnell.

MANSFIELD (0) 0

ROTHERHAM (0) 1 (Smith pen.) 3,913

Mansfield: New; Dawkins, Foster (B), Curtis, Saxby (M), Bird, Miller, Saxby (G) (McClelland), Austin, Allen, Hamilton.

Rotherham: Mountford; Forrest, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Finney, Phillips, Young, Carr, Smith.

SHEFF. WED (1) 2 (Sterland, Hornsby)

HULL (2) 3 (McDonald, Roberts, Edwards) 8,950

Sheff. W: Bolder; Shirliff, Grant, Mullen, Pickering, Taylor, Sterland, Porterfield, Fleming, Owen (Hornsby), Nimmo.

Hull: Wealdens; McDonald, Nisbet, Roberts, Haigh, Dobson, DeVries, Horswill, Edwards, Bannister, Farley.

FOURTH DIVISION

YORK (0) 1 (Ford)

HUDDERSFIELD (0) 3 (Holmes, Cowling, Robins) 2,664

York: Brown; Kay, Walsh, Pugh, Faulkner, Clements, Ford, Stronach (Randall), Wellings, McDonald, Stanforth.

Huddersfield: Starling; Brown, Branagan, Holmes, Sutton, Hanvey, Fletcher, Hart, Cowling, Robins, Bielby.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

BULGARIA (0) 1 (Zvetkov)

EIRE (0) 0 in Sofia 20,000

Bulgaria: Filipov; Grancharov, Ivkov, Vasilev, Iliev, Zdravkov, Voinov, Borissov, Zhelyazkov, Panov, Zvetkov.

Eire: Peyton (Fulham); Gregg (Bohemians), Holmes (Tottenham) (sub: Mulligan (W.B.A.)), Martin (Newcastle), O'Leary (Arsenal), Brady (Arsenal), Daly (Derby), Walsh (Q.P.R.) (sub: McGee (Q.P.R.)), Highway (Liverpool), Giles (Shamrock), Givens (Birmingham).



Leeds United's Trevor Cherry made another international appearance for England against Wales at Wembley.

MONDAY, MAY 21

THIRD DIVISION

MANSFIELD (1) 2 (Saxby, M, Tartt o.g.)

CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Kowalski) 4,159

Mansfield: New; Dawkins, Foster (B), Curtis, Saxby (M), McClelland, Allen, Saxby (G), Austin, Hamilton (Foster C.), Goodwin.

Chesterfield: Tingay; Tartt, Burton (Flavell), Hunter, O'Neill, Prohett, Kowalski, Higgins, Simpson, Salmons, Walker.

SCOTTISH PREMIER

CELTIC (0) 4 (Aitken, McCluskey, Jackson o.g., MacLeod)

RANGERS (1) 2 (Russell, MacDonald) 52,000

Celtic: Latchford; McGrain, Lynch, Aitken, McAdam, Edvaldsson, Provan, Conroy (Lennox), McCluskey, MacLeod, Doyle.

Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Johnstone, Jackson, MacDonald, McLean (Miller), Russell, Parlance, Smith, Cooper.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

INTERNATIONAL

EIRE (1) 1 (Ryan)

WEST GERMANY (1) 3 (Rummennigge, Kelsch, Hoeness) at Dublin 20,000

Eire: Peyton (Fulham); Gregg (Bohemians), Martin (Newcastle), O'Leary (Arsenal), Mulligan (W.B.A.), Grealish (Orient), Giles (Shamrock), Brady (Arsenal), Stapleton (Arsenal), Givens (Birmingham), (sub: O'Callaghan (Stoke)), Ryan (Brighton).

West Germany: Maier; Kaltz, Cullmann, Korster (K.H.), Forster (B), Schuster, Rummennigge, Zimmermann, Hoeness, Allofs, Muller.

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

SCOTLAND (0) 1 (Graham)

N. IRELAND (0) 0 at Hampden Park 28,529



Arthur Graham scored Scotland's goal against Northern Ireland at Hampden Park.

Scotland: Wood (Everton); Burley (Ipswich), Gray (F), (Leeds), Wark (Ipswich) (sub: Narey (Dundee U)), McQueen (Man. Utd), Souness (Liverpool), Jordan (Man. Utd), Hegarty (Dundee Utd), Dalgligh (Liverpool), Hartford (Man. City), Graham (Leeds).

N. Ireland: Jennings (Arsenal); Rice (Arsenal), Nelson (Arsenal), Nicholl (J) (Man. Utd), Hunter (Ipswich), Hamilton (Swindon), Sloan (Man. Utd), McIlroy (Man. Utd), Armstrong (Tottenham), Spence (Blackpool), Moreland (Derby) (sub: Scott (Aldershot)).

SECOND DIVISION

MILLWALL (0) 0

PRESTON (2) 2 (Bell, Potts) 2,833

Millwall: Cuff; Roberts, Gregory, Chambers, Kitchener, Tagg, Towner, Seaman, Mitchell (O'Callaghan), Walker, Chatterton.

Preston: Tunks; Taylor, Cameron, Bell, Baxter, Uzelac, Coleman, Haslegrave, Robinson, Potts (Thomas), Elliott.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLAND 0

WALES 0 at Wembley 75,000

England: Corrigan (Manchester C); Cherry (Leeds), Sansom (Palace), Currie (Leeds) (sub: Brooking (West Ham)), Watson (Man City), Hughes (Liverpool), Keegan (Hamburg), Wilkins (Chelsea), Latchford (Everton) (sub: Coppell (Man Utd)), McDermott (Liverpool), Cunninghamham (W.B.A.).

Wales: Davies (Wrexham); Stevenson (Leeds), Jones (Wrexham), Mahoney (Middlesbrough), Dwyer (Cardiff), Phillips (Swansea), Yorath (Coventry), Flynn (Leeds), James (Swansea), Toshack (Swansea), (sub: Harris (Leeds)), Curtis (Leeds).

SCOTTISH PREMIER

RANGERS (0) 1 (Johnstone)

PARTICK (0) 0 2,000

Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Johnstone, Jackson (Miller), MacDonald (A), McLean, Russell, Parlance (MacDonald J), Watson, Cooper.

Partick: McLean; McKinnion, Whittaker, Marr, Campbell (Somner), Doyle, Houston (Clark), Melrose, O'Hara, McAdam, Park.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

N. IRELAND (1) 1 (Spence)

WALES (0) 1 (James) at Windsor Park 6,500

N. Ireland: Jennings (Arsenal); Rice (Arsenal), Nelson (Arsenal), Nicholl (C) (Southampton), Hunter (Ipswich), Nicholl (J), (Man Utd), Hamilton (Swindon), McIlroy (Man Utd), McCreery (Man Utd) (sub: Sloan (Man Utd)), Spence (Blackpool), Armstrong (Tottenham).

Wales: Davies (Wrexham); Stevenson (Leeds), Dwyer (Cardiff), Phillips (Swansea), Jones (Wrexham), Flynn (Leeds), Yorath (Coventry), Mahoney (Middlesbrough) (sub: Nicholas (Palace)), Toshack (Swansea), James (Swansea), Curtis (Leeds).

SATURDAY, MAY 26

BRITISH CHAMPIONSHIP

ENGLAND (1) 3 (Barnes, Coppell, Keegan)

SCOTLAND (1) 1 (Wark) at Wembley 100,000

England: Clemence (Liverpool); Neal (Liverpool), Mills (Ipswich), Thompson (Liverpool), Watson (Man City), Wilkins (Chelsea), Keegan (Hamburg), Coppell (Man Utd), Latchford (Everton), Brooking (West Ham), Barnes (Man City).

Scotland: Wood (Everton); Burley (Ipswich), Gray (F) (Leeds), Wark (Ipswich), McQueen (Man Utd), Hegarty (Dundee U), Dalgligh (Liverpool), Souness (Liverpool), Jordan (Man Utd), Hartford (Man City), Graham (Leeds).

MONDAY, MAY 28

SCOTTISH CUP FINAL

second replay

RANGERS (1) 3 (Johnstone 2, Duncan o.g.)
HIBERNIAN (1) 2 (Higgins, MacLeod pen) at Hampden Park, a.e.t. 30,602

Rangers: McCloy; Jardine, Dawson, Johnstone, Jackson, Watson (Miller), McLean (Smith), Russell, Parlance, MacDonald, Cooper.

Hibs: McArthur; Brazil, Duncan, Bremner, Stewart, McNamara, Rae, MacLeod, Campbell, Callachan (Brown), Higgins (Hutchinson).

TUESDAY, MAY 29

INTERNATIONAL

EIRE 0

ARGENTINA 0 in Dublin 25,000

Eire: Peyton (Fulham); Gregg (Bohemians), Martin (Newcastle), O'Leary (Arsenal), Mulligan (W.B.A.), Grealish (Orient), Giles (Shamrock R), Brady (Arsenal), Stapleton (Arsenal) (sub: O'Callaghan (Stoke)), Walsh (Q.P.R.), Givens (Birmingham) (sub: McGee (Q.P.R.)).

Argentina: Fillol; Villaverde, Tarantini (Gallego), Olguin, Oviedo, Trossero, Houseman, Barbas, Reinaldi (Maradona), Valencia, Perotti (Dutes).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

NOTTM FOREST (1) 1 (Francis)

MALMO (0) 0 in Munich 60,000



Forest captain John McGovern proudly displays the European Cup after his side had beaten Malmö 1-0 in Munich.

Nottm F: Shilton; Anderson, Clark, McGovern, Lloyd, Burns, Francis, Bowyer, Birrells, Woodcock, Robertson.

Malmö: Moller; Roland Andersson, Erlundsson, Jonsson, Magnus Andersson, Tapper (Malmberg), Ljungberg, Prytz, Hansson (Tommy Andersson), Cervin, Kinnvall.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

SCOTTISH PREMIER

HIBS (1) 2 (Brazil, Rae)

RANGERS (0) 1 (Urquhart) 4,000

Hibernian: McArthur; Brazil, Duncan, Bremner, Stewart, McNamara, Rae, MacLeod, Campbell, Brown (Farmer), Hutchinson (Lambie).

Rangers: McCloy; Forsyth, Dawson, Miller, Morris, Watson, Strickland (Armor), Urquhart, Russell, Smith, Cooper (Robertson).

Results ... Scorers ... Team line-ups will be back next season.

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Will WIGAN DO A WIMBLEDON?

NINE games played with only five points to show was the rather indifferent start to Wigan Athletic's first season in the Football League.

"What I would liked to have done was to cut those opening games off," says team-boss, Ian McNeill (right), "because after that, our form was very much promotion standard. In fact, during the remaining 37 matches we collected 50 points; only Reading of the promoted clubs did better with 51.

"I think we turned the corner after we played at Portsmouth, where we lost 1-0 and Pompey scored in the last six minutes. We felt, at that time, the Fratton Park club were one of the best in the Division.

"From that moment onwards we had a wonderful spell. We caught back points on most of the clubs, but we needed better than promotion form to get there after our bad beginning. In the end we finished in sixth place.

"When we started life in the Football League we said if we ended the 1978-79 season in a mid-table position we would have been very pleased. But after that horrific opening we thought we might be back applying for re-election.

"Yet the lads, once they got used to it, always had the feeling that with a little bit of confidence Wigan could do well. Even when we played our last game at Bradford it was still mathematically possible for us to go up.

Smoother

"So, all things considered, it was a tremendous opening season. I don't think we could have given the club a smoother entry into League Football than we did.

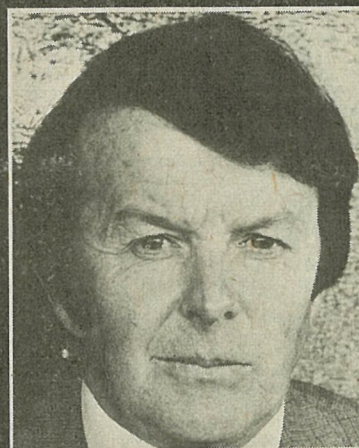
"We're happy with the way things have gone. If we had won promotion it would have been great for me and it would have been great for my coach Kenny Banks, the players and the supporters. The board could have said that in their first year Wigan won promotion.

"We took 35 years of consolidation to reach the Fourth Division and we don't want to languish there. But we've also got to realise that we must show patience and not be in too much of a rush to do anything.

Ian, 45, and born in Glasgow, served his apprenticeship at non-League level, so how has he found Football League management?

"I feel I've taken my first season in my stride," he says. "I've a top notch assistant in Kenny Banks, who I think is absolutely superb. A manager at our level has to maintain a first-class spirit and we've got to get the maximum out of the talent at our disposal.

"We're not in a position to splash out £100,000 on a player to



give us a boost when we're not doing too well. To me that's taking the easy way out."

McNeill, who admits to being a true Scotsman as far as money is concerned, has kept a tight rein on the club's purse strings and has brought only free transfer men to Springfield Park: Ian Purdie from Motherwell, Dave Fretwell, the former Bradford player and Kevin Smart, once of Plymouth.

"Those were the only players I didn't have in the Northern Premier," he says. "The only fee I paid was £2,000 to re-sign Micky Maybank, where the previous season I sold him to Port Vale for twice that amount.

"I've learned quite a few pointers along the line, and possibly one of the main items is that we may have been a little too adventurous away from home. We've been going to places, winning 1-0 and finishing up drawing with ten minutes to go. We'll have to pay a little more detail to that.

"I think earlier on we were a bit anxious; we kept making mistakes and that was the root cause. Our centre-forward and leading goalscorer Peter Houghton injured his hand at Luton. He played 23 League games and scored 14 goals, which is top class for his first season in League Football. I think, if we'd had Peter fit all season, we would have gone up.

"The goals have been shared around with the midfielders and defenders taking their cut."

Can Wigan do a Wimbledon and win promotion next time round? "I feel that with a ten per cent improvement we'll be there or thereabouts," says Ian, "whether I sign any new players or not. But I think we've proved our point. Potentially we were a League side and we've shown that with our gates. We've averaged around 7,500, and with due respect to Wimbledon, I don't think they've averaged 4,000.

"When you think about it, our attendances have been tremendous in our first year, especially after the disastrous start that we had."

THIRD Division attackers be warned! Former England 'Iron Man' Norman 'Bite Yer Legs' Hunter is on the warpath.

Minutes after signing for newly-promoted Barnsley, managed by his ex-Leeds United and England team-mate Allan Clarke, the 35-year-old Geordie announced he has not lost his hunger for success.

"I've told Clarkie that I'm not going to Barnsley for the ride," he explained. "I have my eye on a Third Division Championship medal next spring.

"What's more, Clarkie tells me the team is good enough to help me to achieve my ambition."

Hunter admits he knows very little about his new club. He has teamed-up with the Oakwell outfit mainly because he trusts Clarke.

"When I was hesitating about whether or not to leave Bristol City — they had offered me another two-year contract — Allan drove down to the West Country and convinced me there is great potential at Oakwell.

"He's done a marvellous rebuilding job in less than 12 months as player-manager. He's won them promotion, improved the gates



Hunter (right) shadows Manchester City's Mike Channon.

scale as at Elland Road.

"Barnsley will be a new experience.

"But I'm sure I will learn valuable lessons. It will teach me about life in Division Three and that should stand me in good stead if and when I become a manager.

"Watching Clarkie at work off the field, organising coaching, scouting, communicating with the public should be an education."

And Sniffer's comment on his famous recruit and colleague from Leeds United's glory days: "Norman is still a tremendous competitor who will add experience, which is probably what we lacked last season.

"It's a short-term signing when you remember his age, but he is still a top player.

"And let's not forget that Norman will considerably strengthen the side and be a crowd-puller. I'm delighted he's joined us."

NORMAN STILL HUNTING MEDALS

and generally revitalised the club.

"I looked at what they did last season, marvelled at the 21,261 crowd which saw them clinch promotion, and decided I could do no better than throw my energy and enthusiasm behind their bid to get into the Second Division.

"But I had two other compelling reasons for moving North — my desire to get into management when I finish playing.

"If I'd stayed at Bristol, where I've been very happy for the past two-and-a-half seasons, there wouldn't have been many outlets for me on the management side.

"In Yorkshire and Lancashire there are lots of clubs, so my chances of landing the right job are considerably improved."

The thought of playing Third Division football for the first time

in his distinguished career has its own attraction for the tough-tackling Hunter, who was the footballers' first "Player of the Year" back in 1973-74.

"One thing life has taught me since I joined Don Revie at Elland Road from school — I was his second professional signing — is that you never win anything without dedication.

"That lesson has stayed with me and if I can pass on some of that spirit to Barnsley's youngsters I'll be pleased."

Over 700 first team appearances for Leeds, more than 100 for Bristol City and 28 England caps have not lessened his appetite for a challenge.

But he admits it will be a novelty being with a little club. "It was roses nearly all the way at Leeds after the early struggles and at Bristol I was with a First Division outfit, although not on the same



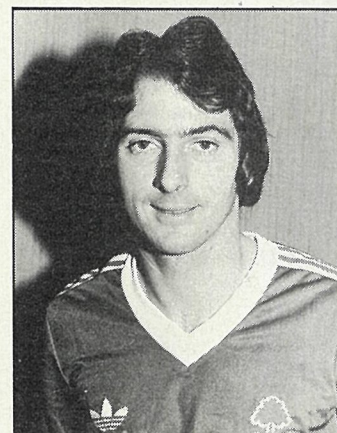
Allan Clarke (sixth from left) and Norman Hunter (extreme right) as former team-mates at Leeds celebrate their F.A. Cup Final win in 1972.

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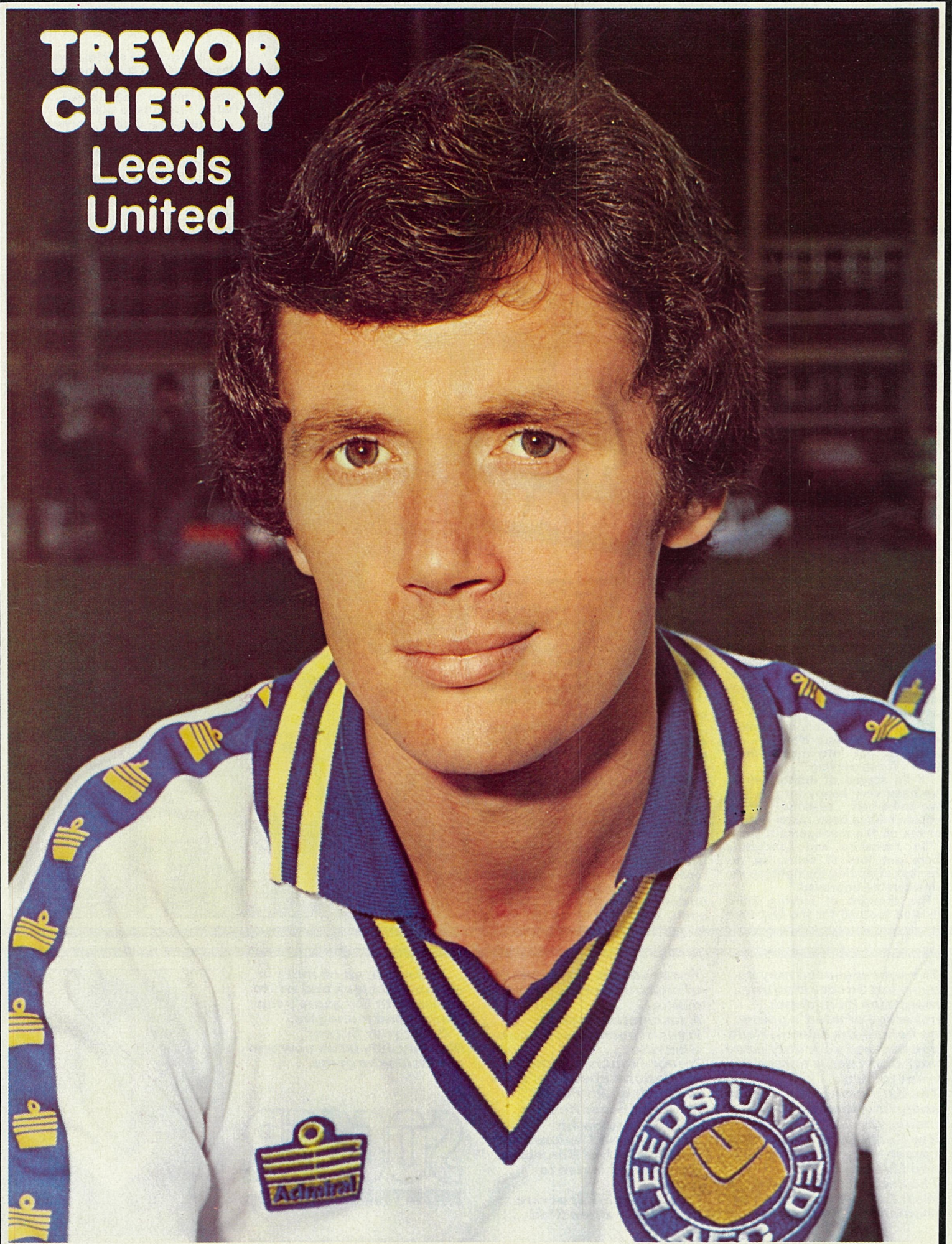
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SHOOT!

FOCUS ON

MICKY BURNS

Middlesbrough

FULL NAME: Michael Edward Burns
BIRTHPLACE: Preston
BIRTHDATE: 21st December, 1946
HEIGHT: 5ft 7½ins
WEIGHT: 10st 10lbs
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Blackpool, Newcastle and Cardiff
MARRIED: Yes
CHILDREN: Boy Mark and girl Sarah
CAR: Alpine GLS
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Former Preston star Tom Finney
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: West Brom's John Wile
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: My first Amateur international
BIGGEST THRILL: Playing at Wembley
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing in the League Cup Final to Manchester City in 1976 whilst with Newcastle
BEST COUNTRY VISITED: Malta
FAVOURITE FOOD: Fish
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: Winning matches
MISCELLANEOUS DISLIKES: Long coach journeys
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: George and Mildred and The Benny Hill Show
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Buddy Holly, Everley Brothers and Patsy Cline
FAVOURITE ACTOR: Lee Marvin
BEST FRIENDS: My team-mates
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My father and Ray Evans, ex-Preston, who was a player at Chorley
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Injuries
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Amateur caps for England
PERSONAL AMBITION: To keep playing for as long as possible
PROFESSIONAL AMBITION: To win the League Championship
IF YOU WEREN'T A FOOTBALLER, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'D BE? A school teacher
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? Pope John Paul II

M. Burns



SHOOT!

ONE of the most significant decisions made in recent years came when loan transfers of players to American clubs were banned. It is interesting, because on the face of it, the ruling has been made for a minority of clubs. After all, not all 92 teams have players guesting for North American Soccer League sides, so it isn't really something that affects our football in general.

Yet in many ways it does. The ban was made with the best interests of our game in mind and whilst it may be selfish to prevent some players earning a well-deserved summer bonus, every effort must be made to safeguard our own soccer.

As a player, I must be honest and say the ban isn't necessarily good. I've no intention of playing in the NASL (Villa refused to release players even before the suspension) but I've nothing against a professional playing one summer in the States to pick up a nice bonus.

You'll notice I said "one summer" — this is because I believe no player can play continually and produce

his best. For one year, yes . . . but over three or four seasons — no.

If there was a ballot amongst players, I'm sure they'd be against the ban. It's a short career and you can't blame anyone for wanting to better himself and collect security for his family. It's a question of keeping things in proportion.

Trevor Francis is the only player I know who's played in America and told me he loved every minute of it. Detroit loved Trevor, too, by all accounts and he's now back in "Motor City, U.S.A." for his second spell.

It would have been interesting to have seen how playing through last summer affected him, but he damaged an ankle in training not long after returning and was sidelined for three months. We shall have to wait until next season to see if Trevor suffers any after-effects.

My own view is that rest is as



"Dennis Tueart (right) is the only top English star to join a Stateside club."

'America good —

important as training. The summer lay-off is a vital part of the build-up to the new season. It's the same for everyone. We all feel better after two or three weeks away from our jobs on holiday. It recharges your batteries and footballers, at the end of ten months' hard slog, are drained.

As I said, a player can get away with it for one year, but to continuously play is damaging.

There are times when it can benefit a player to have a working holiday. Malcolm Macdonald, for instance, is fighting his way back to fitness in Sweden; Keith Bertschin is doing the same in South Africa. If my cartilage operation had come a month earlier, I wouldn't have minded a few games to ensure I'm at my best for the new season.

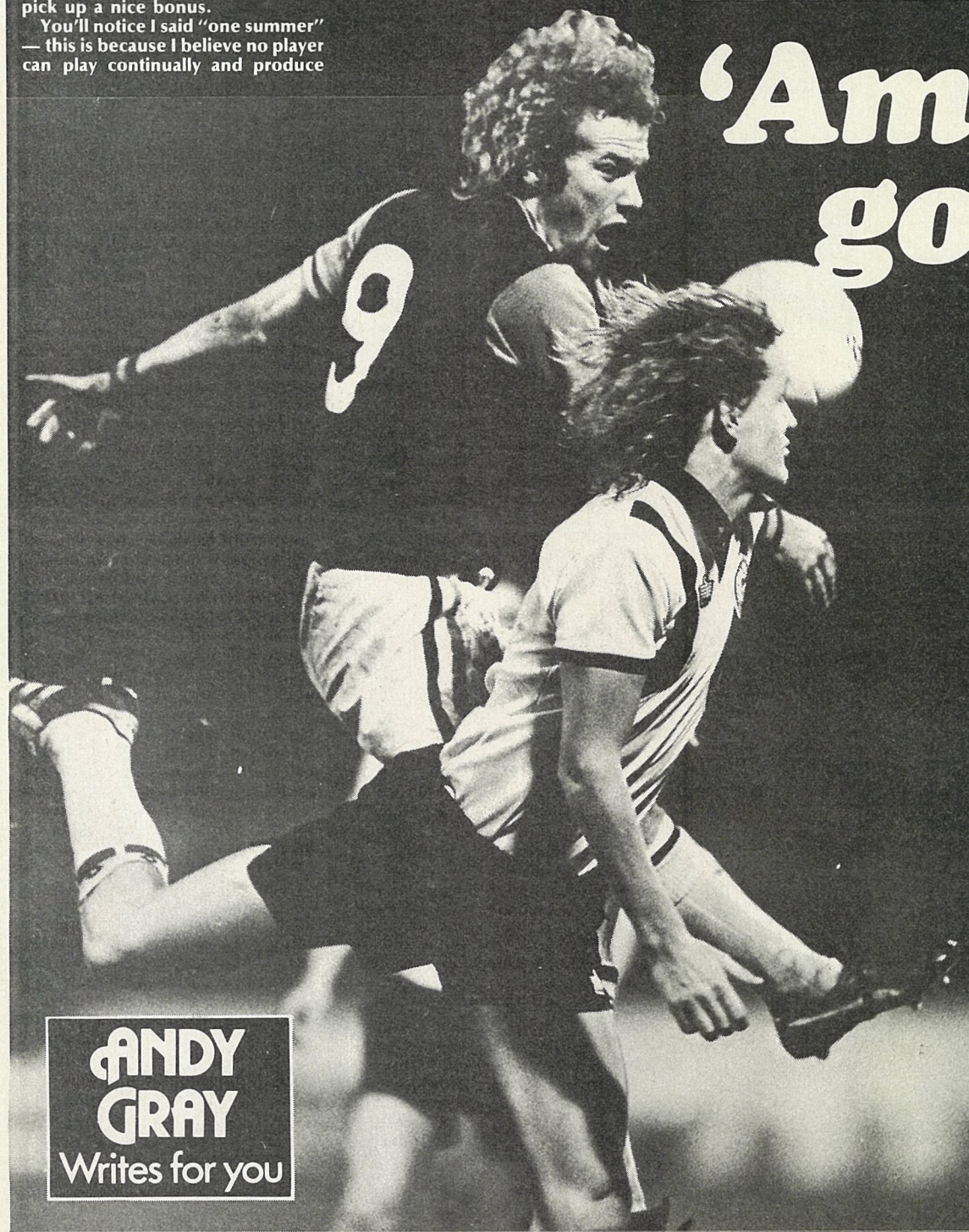
Better Way

Malcolm, Keith and myself all missed a lot of games during 1978/79 and playing is always a better way to be 100 per cent fit again than simply training.

I don't know how many Football League players are currently on loan to NASL clubs, but I'd guess it was approaching 100. The Americans rely on British players to a great extent and I can't see them sitting back and accepting the ban. The Americans, who see soccer as a business rather than a sport, are sure to hit back.

Even now, there are players who are owned by American clubs and are loaned to English clubs for the winter. Trevor Whymark of the Vancouver Whitecaps and Ipswich Town is probably the best known.

We could see more arrangements like this, because money doesn't seem to be too much of a problem



**ANDY
GRAY**
Writes for you

for American outfits, who may turn their attention to younger players.

There is no doubt soccer is getting stronger in the States. A few years ago, it wasn't too demanding to play through a season, but it's become more professional and in the 80's things will get even more demanding.

Even so, I can't see too many of our top young stars going to the States. The only one we've lost so far is Dennis Tueart to the Cosmos; but Dennis was 28 or 29 when he left Manchester City.

America can offer a player money, but not the ambition or challenge the Football League can. Not to mention an international career.

As a Scot, I suppose in a way I've moved to a different country, although England is hardly abroad! Scottish players who moved South aren't lost permanently and the

From my point of view, I still have many ambitions to fulfill in England. I've virtually missed two seasons because of niggly injuries and I'd very much like to win a major honour.

On top of that, playing for Scotland means a great deal to me. My international career hasn't really started yet, because of injuries and a FIFA suspension, and nothing would give me more pleasure than to establish myself in Jock Stein's side.

First things first and that means reaching peak fitness for the new season. Touch wood, the troublesome knee is fine and there is no need to rush, a temptation during the actual playing season. Training through the summer isn't my ideal way of spending June and July, but I'm determined to get back to my best.

See you in two weeks,

ban is and bad'

extra competition of the Football League improves our standard and, therefore, the national team.

I've never been offered a career in the States and on the face of it have no desire to go ... yet. I wouldn't mind one summer there. If a club started to talk in telephone numbers for a salary then I'd have to listen.

As no one has come in for me, it's all hypothetical, but there probably isn't a player who hasn't thought about America.

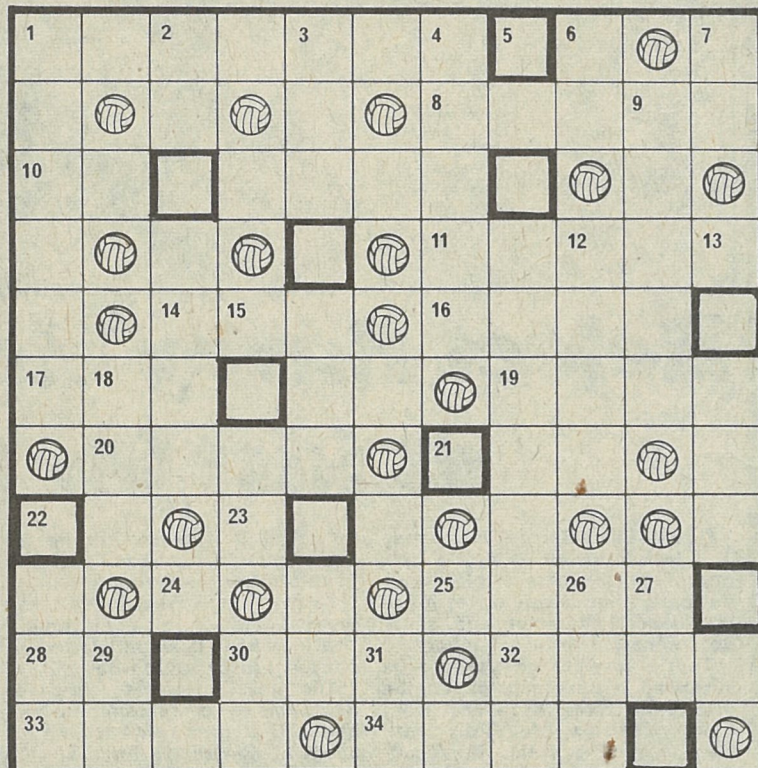
Andy Glead



"Trevor Francis (right) enjoys playing in Detroit."

Go for the Double

After solving the clues in this specially compiled crossword, you can use the letters in the thick-edged squares to form the name of a Derby County striker. Answers on page 42.



ACROSS:—

- (1) Tommy —, Coventry City winger.
- (8) In the air.
- (10) — Park, ground of Arbroath.
- (11) A book of maps made from half of Aston Villa!
- (14) Forename of a Manchester City player.
- (16) Take five letters from Dean Court for a type of bee.
- (17) Bri--ol ----rs from Eastville Stadium.
- (19) Requests.
- (20) Not in action.
- (21) --e-hams Ground. Newt from the missing letters.
- (22) Bayvi-- Park (East Fife). The omissions reversed.
- (23) Preston North — play at Deepdale
- (25) Heraldic inscription incorporated in some club shields.
- (28) Duncan —, Norwich City back-four player.
- (32) --ots H-II Grou-d (Southend).
- (33) There is one in the ground names of Barnsley & Motherwell, for instance.
- (34) Command.

DOWN:—

- (1) Surname of a Liverpool player.
- (2) Put every effort into the game. (3 & 4)
- (3) Southport's ground. (4 & 6)
- (4) Food for players who wish to slim perhaps.
- (5) Ground of Manchester United. (3 & 8)
- (6) First two letters of the club from Meadow Lane.
- (7) — Etienne, losing European Cup Finalists, 1975/76.
- (9) Forename of Footballer of the Year, 1970/71.
- (12) Failed to triumph.
- (13) Period, as of training.
- (15) Part of the foot.
- (18) David S-r-d of Chelsea.
- (22) Float smoothly and lightly through the air.
- (24) Paul G--n-r of Sheffield United.
- (26) Peter Eas---, Everton player.
- (27) Peter --ylo- of Spurs.
- (29) Brian H--ton of Brighton.
- (30) Sa--lla. Surname of another Sheffield United player.
- (31) Graeme --uness of Liverpool.



Barry Silkman (above left) scores for City against Q.P.R. last season. Not in action this time, Barry sits left of Malcolm Allison and Tony Book.



Reject Barry 'clicks' at last for City

WHATEVER Barry Silkman may lack in inches — at 5' 8" he's one of soccer's smaller players — he more than compensates for in confidence, character and sheer determination to be a winner.

That's why no one should be surprised if next season it's the man Manchester City plucked from Third Division football with Plymouth, who steals the headlines from his more famous teammates at Maine Road.

Barry, in fact, arrived at Manchester under somewhat confused circumstances. He 'signed' for City in February in a £100,000 deal, and was looking forward to making his debut in the derby game against Manchester United. Then suddenly, 24 hours later, the deal was off, after he had failed a routine medical check.

"They said I had a 'click' in my right knee, which could prove troublesome in the future. And City were advised not to take the risk on me," Barry told SHOOT.

"Obviously, my first reaction was to feel really choked. Who wouldn't have been in my position?

"I felt angry that I should be robbed of fulfilling my life's ambition of playing in the First Division, especially with a club as respected as City, by something as trivial as a 'click'.

"But those feelings passed surprisingly quickly when I got to thinking just how many people there are in this world, far worse off than me.

"At least I was still confident about my ability to carry on play-

ing. And if it wasn't to be for Manchester City, then it would have to be for someone else.

"So when the Press arrived, and wanted me to look all downhearted and dejected for their photos, I just couldn't do it."

The next immediate step for Barry was to go to Luton on a loan basis. "But I didn't enjoy the time I spent at Kenilworth Road at all," he said. "There was no way I could have joined them on a permanent basis."

Then City decided to renew their interest.

"Call it a premonition, if you like, but somehow I had a feeling in my bones that they'd come back for me," Silkman explained.

"I'd kept my eye on the situation at Maine Road. They hadn't been able to sign anyone else, so obviously that was a point in my favour."

"Anyway, they agreed a reduced fee with Plymouth, around £60,000 I believe, with a condition concerning my fitness, and suddenly everything was roses again. I'd made the top flight after all."

Because of the backlog of fixtures, due to the severe winter, by the end of the season Barry had actually played in just under a third of City's total League games. And he was more than pleased with the way he'd settled into the side.

"I particularly like playing under Malcolm Allison," said Barry. "He was the manager at Plymouth, before moving back to Maine Road. Obviously the fact that he'd seen me, and what I could do, at first hand, was the reason he came

back for me.

"Malcolm recognises what I consider to be my strong points — my passing, and my ability to get deeply involved wherever the action is. And he's constantly encouraging me to play to those strengths."

"Some people have asked me if I was at all over-awed by going to Maine Road.

"I can honestly say I haven't given it a second thought. I just don't get affected by that sort of thing. As far as I'm concerned, they're all just new team-mates. Nothing else. It's usually the Press who do their best to elevate players to so-called star status anyway. But out there on the pitch they're just the same as anyone else."

One of the big criticisms of City in the past has been that although they have always been capable of skilful, entertaining soccer on their day, when the going gets tough, too many of their players lacked the appetite for a fight.

Could the effervescent Silkman help to put some much needed fire into their bellies, we asked?

"I'll definitely be doing my best," Barry told us. "I'm certainly a bit of a chatterbox on the pitch. I like to put myself about, running round and goading people up when I think they might need it."

"But really that kind of thing is no use unless the people you're trying to encourage respond in the right sort of way."

"If they think to themselves 'who the hell does he think he's talking to', and let it go in one ear

and out the other, then it's just a waste of time and breath.

"But if it makes them roll up their sleeves and give that extra five or ten per cent of effort, then who knows what can be achieved."

"For instance, look at Crystal Palace. Their youngsters worked wonders for them last season. But for me, the key man in the team was goalkeeper John Burridge."

"While I was with Palace, I advised Terry Venables to buy 'Budgie' because I was sure he'd be a tremendous influence on the lads."

"He'll talk us to promotion," I used to say to Terry. And that's exactly what he did."

So what then of City's chances for honours next season?

Despite the recent speculation surrounding several of their players, on paper, they still look to be one of the most capable sides in the country.

"The only snag is, football isn't played on paper," Barry pointed out. "And out there on the park it's a whole lot tougher than it seems."

"But come August, we'll be starting on exactly the same level as Liverpool, Nottingham Forest and the rest of them. And if everyone pulls together as they should, I'm sure we can give a good account of ourselves."

"I certainly intend to do just that. I might have got to the First Division by a roundabout route, and at 26, I'm possibly starting a bit later in life than others, but now I'm here, I mean to succeed."

"If I don't, I'll only have myself to blame."

Ever had this much fun in your garden?

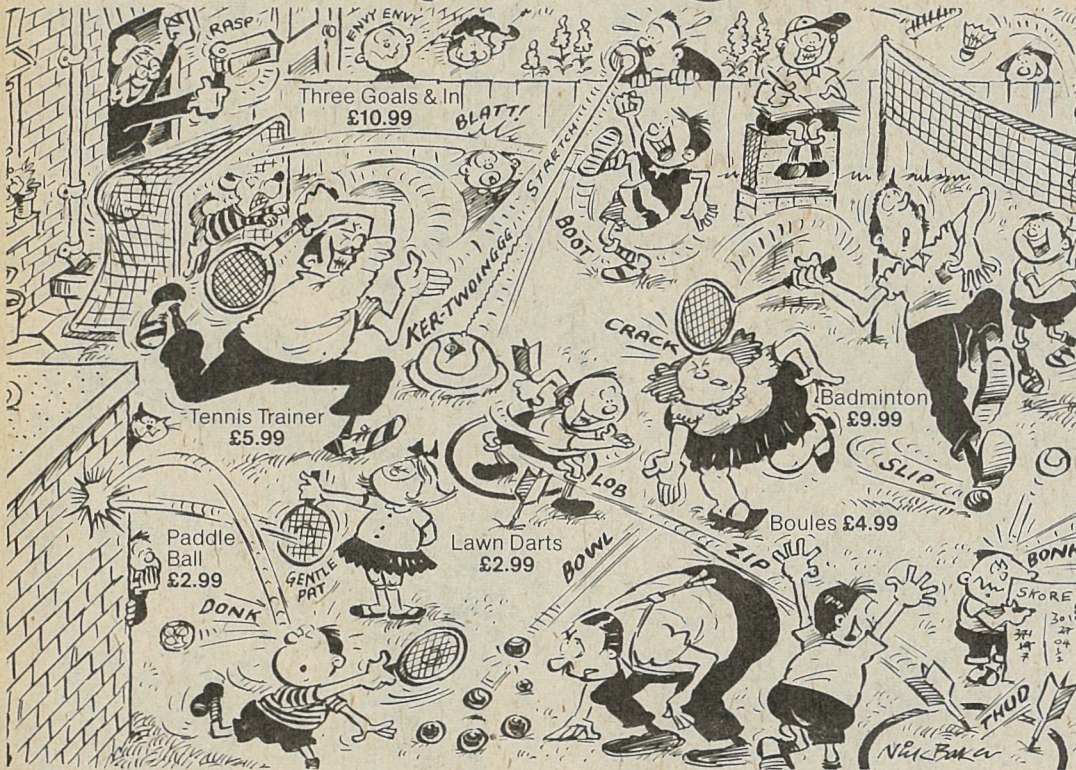
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SIMPLY, he is known as "Mr Goals" to team-mates, fans and opponents. He may not be everyone's idea of a footballer and he is often criticised and overlooked when discussions of great players take place.

But, love him or hate him, Joe Harper is a merchant of menace in that penalty-area. He has terrorised defences in Scotland and England as he has declared war on rearguards.

He can score goals in any company and although he will probably be the first to admit that last season was far from being a satisfactory one for himself he still managed to hit the back of the net more times than any other player in the Premier Division.

Harper struck 31 goals with a variety of efforts yet, amazingly, he also missed three penalty-kicks during the season. The player who came closest to pipping Harper for top scorer's title was former Celtic player Andy Ritchie, of Morton.

The Cappielow player scored 29 goals in mesmerising fashion, but even the Morton wizard had to be content with second place behind Harper.

"Yes, it was nice scoring those goals," says the Pittodrie prince of the penalty-area. "It would have been even better if Aberdeen had won a trophy for our fabulous fans. They really deserved something, but in the end we were beaten Finalists in the League Cup, losing Semi-Finalists in the Scottish Cup and finished fourth in the Premier Division.

'So close'

"That might satisfy some teams, but it doesn't keep us happy at Pittodrie. We had come so close the previous season, too. We were second in the League and beaten Finalists in the Scottish Cup.

"I'm looking forward to the new season . . . it cannot come quickly enough for me. This is my testimonial year with Aberdeen and I aim to make it a memorable one, believe me.

"I think it is a marvellous tribute from the club to grant me a testimonial. It's a gesture which I much appreciate and I just hope to keep on rattling in the goals and, hopefully, The Dons will win everything in sight."

Harper, then, is in no mood for messing about. He is king of the goalscorers in Scotland and it's a title he is determined to hold on to.

What makes the chunky striker so lethal? Listen to his Pittodrie team-mate Bobby Clark, the veteran goalkeeper who has faced some of the best strikers in the world while on duty for club and country.

"I've never enjoyed playing against Joe," he says. "When he was with Morton and Hibs and playing against Aberdeen I always knew I was in for a hard time. He 'sniffs' out goals and his positional sense is superb.

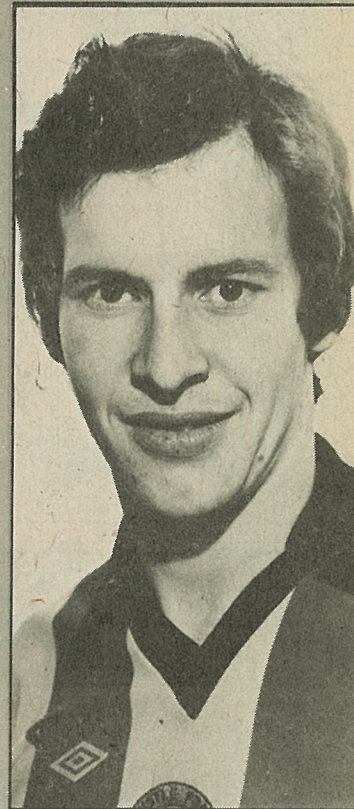
"If there are any rebounds in that penalty-box you can be sure he will be around to snap them up. It's certainly not just luck. He just seems to be in the right place at the right time.

"Harper is the type of player you have to watch all the time. He turns quickly, can lose his marker,

CAN ANYONE ROB 'MR GOALS'



Aberdeen sharp-shooter Joe Harper (left) would be first to admit that last season was far from satisfactory but the goal machine still managed to net 31 goals. Under-rated Doug Somner (below) moved to St. Mirren for £100,000 last term, has scored with regularity over the years.



shoot strongly with both feet and his timing in the air is wonderful.

"I'm just glad he is an Aberdeen player and I don't have to face him again! Even so, he can make your life a misery in training."

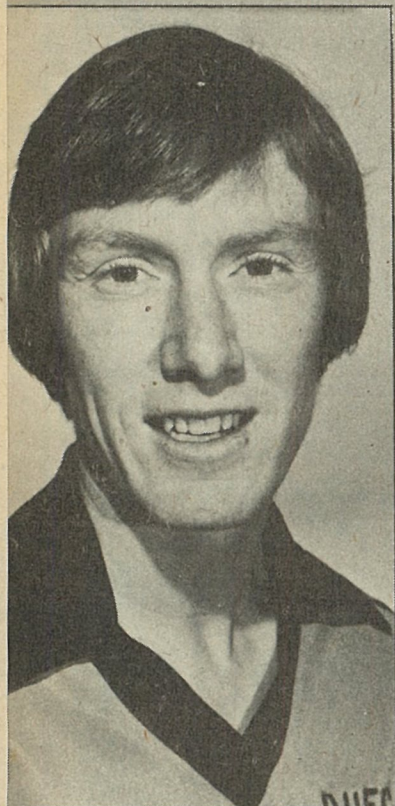
Another goalkeeper who rates Harper highly is Partick Thistle's Alan Rough. The Firhill personality says: "When people talk about Joe scoring goals they always seem to get round to the ones he scores only a couple of yards out.

"You know the sort of thing. Someone has a shot at goal, the 'keeper pushes it out and there's Joe standing poised right in front of goal firing it back in again.

"Yet, people forget the goals he has the ability to score outside the area. Actually, I would say Harper has one of the hardest shots in football. Certainly, he's got one of the fiercest shots I have ever faced.

"When he connects the ball just takes off like a guided missile. I've stopped a few in my time and I can tell you they really sting. "He's good with his head, too. He can flick the ball and divert is slightly off course. It's enough to send the goalkeeper the wrong way. And he

JOE HARPER OF HIS TITLE?



John Bourke (above) settled into Kilmarnock after his transfer from Dundee United to finish up with 23 goals. Another goal for Andy Ritchie (right) as he jumps for joy after netting for Morton.

can get a lot of power behind the ball, too, when the situation is required.

"I look forward to my duels with Joe. I've got to know him quite well during international duty, but there is no old pals' act when we meet out on the pitch."

Will Harper finish next season top of the pile again? Or will someone else take his place?

It's difficult to see anyone taking his title although there will be a lot of pressure on the former Morton, Huddersfield, Everton, Hibs and Aberdeen striker.

His main rival could be Rangers Derek Johnstone, who, ironically, is one of his best mates off the field. Johnstone could start the new season up-front and, as he proved against Hibs in the Scottish Cup final, he is lethal in the penalty-area.

Rangers toiled to score goals against Hibs and in the second replay they pushed Johnstone into attack. Result? Two goals for Johnstone and a 3-2 victory for the Ibrox club.

Celtic don't appear to have a

consistent goalscorer on their books at the moment although Parkhead manager Billy McNeill is hoping to rectify that before the new programme gets underway.

He had a £120,000 bid for Clydebank's Frank McDougall turned down recently, but there is still a chance that he will get his man in the near future.

McDougall could be the answer to Celtic's problem which is highlighted by the fact that LEFT-BACK Andy Lynch was their second top scorer last season with 12 goals, only one behind Tom McAdam,

Mirren for £100,000 and they could miss his goalscoring talents. Somner, an under-rated player, has been scoring goals consistently over the past four years and could do even better with the Paisley side.

St. Mirren will miss the goals Frank McGarvey used to conjure up, but Somner will get his fair share for them. Whether or not he scores more than Joe Harper is another matter, though.

Newly-promoted Dundee and Kilmarnock come into the Top Ten with two superb penalty-box players. Billy Pirie, of the Dens Park club, scored over 40 goals two seasons ago, but had to be content with only 18 last season.

John Bourke, who threatened to quit the game altogether last year before his move from Dundee



who finished the season playing at centre-back.

McDougall would jump at the chance to show he can score goals in the Premier Division. He hit 28 in the First Division last season and he says: "Moving to Celtic would be a dream come true. Honestly, there is no other club in the world I would rather join."

"I've always been Celtic daft. I would play for them for nothing! Kenny Dalglish used to be my favourite player when he was at Parkhead. I would have loved to have teamed up with him."

"I can just hope and pray that Celtic don't lose interest in me. Clydebank have been good to me, but Celtic are just different class."

With that sort of dedication and ambition McDougall could probably do a great job for the Champions if — or should that be when? — he moves.

Partick Thistle recently sold their top scorer Doug Somner to St.

United to Kilmarnock, settled in quickly with the Rugby Park club and scored 23 goals. That's great going when you consider he missed the start of the season.

Bourke will be up there among the leaders next season, there is little doubt about that. Kilmarnock can play entrancing, entertaining soccer and although they might not always get the results that will make them safe they will still score a lot of goals.

Andy Ritchie will continue to put strain on Harper with his own special brand of goalscoring. Ritchie scores the type of goals you might expect from a Pele or a Cruyff.

He can bend free-kicks round defensive walls from all sorts of ranges and angles and his devastating ball-playing ability even in the tightest spots can wreck any defensive formation.

Infringement

Ritchie actually "scored" a goal last season from 40 yards against Celtic at Parkhead, but, alas for the player and Morton, the referee had to rule it out for an infringement by one of his team-mates.

It was a marvellous bending, swerving, dipping effort that had Celtic goalkeeper Peter Latchford absolutely bamboozled and bewildered as it soared past him into the net. "The referee even said he was sorry for ruling it out afterwards," says Ritchie.

Will Ritchie overtake Harper next season? Or will it be Derek Johnstone, Doug Somner, Billy Pirie or John Bourke? Or even McDougall if he gets his dream move to Celtic?

That's a question that will be answered at the end of next season. SHOOT has a sneaky feeling that Joe Harper has an awful lot of goals left in him yet. He won't surrender that title without a fight.

All the pretenders to Harper's 'crown' will come under close scrutiny from Scotland's manager Jack Stein.

The barrel is far from dry following Scotland's disastrous performance in the World Cup.

IN NEXT WEEK'S SHOOT —

Colour: Superb double-spread on Kevin Keegan's West German club, Hamburger SV, winning the Bundesliga Championship for first time + Linfield team group + Players in the "hand of peace" movement pose in their respective team colours + Focus on John Gregory, Aston Villa + Leeds' Welsh stars.

Features: Spotlight on Hamburger SV + Four players — John Wile (W.B.A.), John Craggs (Boro), Paul Mariner (Ipswich), and Kenny Hibbitt (Wolves) — pick their best all-round Football League team + Diego Maradona, hailed as the successor to the fabulous Pele + Arsenal manager Terry Neill looks forward to what could prove to be his club's best season since winning the double in 1971 + A look at Bolton + Alan Biley (Cambridge) + 75 years of F.I.F.A.: highlights in the development of the World football organisation + Terry Hibbitt (Newcastle) + Dennis Mortimer (Aston Villa) + Alfie Conn's big money move + the versatile McAdam brothers + Ronnie Galvin's transfer South.

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TAKE A BREAK—IT'S Quiz Time

1. A Football League committee reduced Charlton's transfer valuation of £650,000 placed on their rebel star Mike Flanagan. True or false?

2. Norwich City manager John Bond offered Manchester City £100,000, £200,000 or £250,000 for England centre-half Dave Watson?

3. Birmingham City's veteran goalkeeper Jim Montgomery has joined Sunderland or Nottingham Forest on a free transfer?

4. Bristol City's former England defender Norman Hunter has been transferred to which Third Division club as player-coach. Name the club and his former Leeds United team-mate, who manages the club.

5. Which London club has made transfer enquiries about Manchester United's unsettled stars Brian Greenhoff and Stuart Pearson?

6. The new manager of Fourth Division Crewe is Sir Alf Ramsey, Bill Nicholson or Tony Waddington?

7. The picture on this page (right) shows one of three goals scored by a Danish forward in Northern Ireland's 4-0 defeat in the European Championship in Copenhagen. Identify the player. Is it Preben Elkjaer or Allan Simonsen?

8. Kevin Keegan (top right) holds aloft a possession more prized than any silver trophy. It's his eight month old daughter Sally Ann, Emma Louise or Laura Jane?

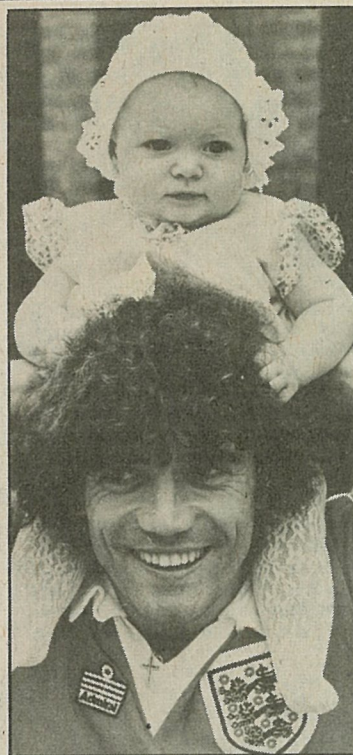
9. Newly promoted Stoke City's player-coach Howard Kendall is the new manager of Burnley, Blackburn or Bolton?

10. Alan Curbishley, the West Ham midfielder player, has joined which Second Division club?

11. Former Telford manager Geoff Hurst started work as coach to which London club last month?

12. Name the Stoke City forward who has asked for a transfer because he claims that the club won't play him as a striker?

13. Brighton agreed to pay £150,000 for Portsmouth's 21-year-old centre-half Foster. Is his christian name Barry, David or Stephen?



14. Name the former soccer star who hosts the BBC Television's "Football Focus" programme on Saturdays in the winter.

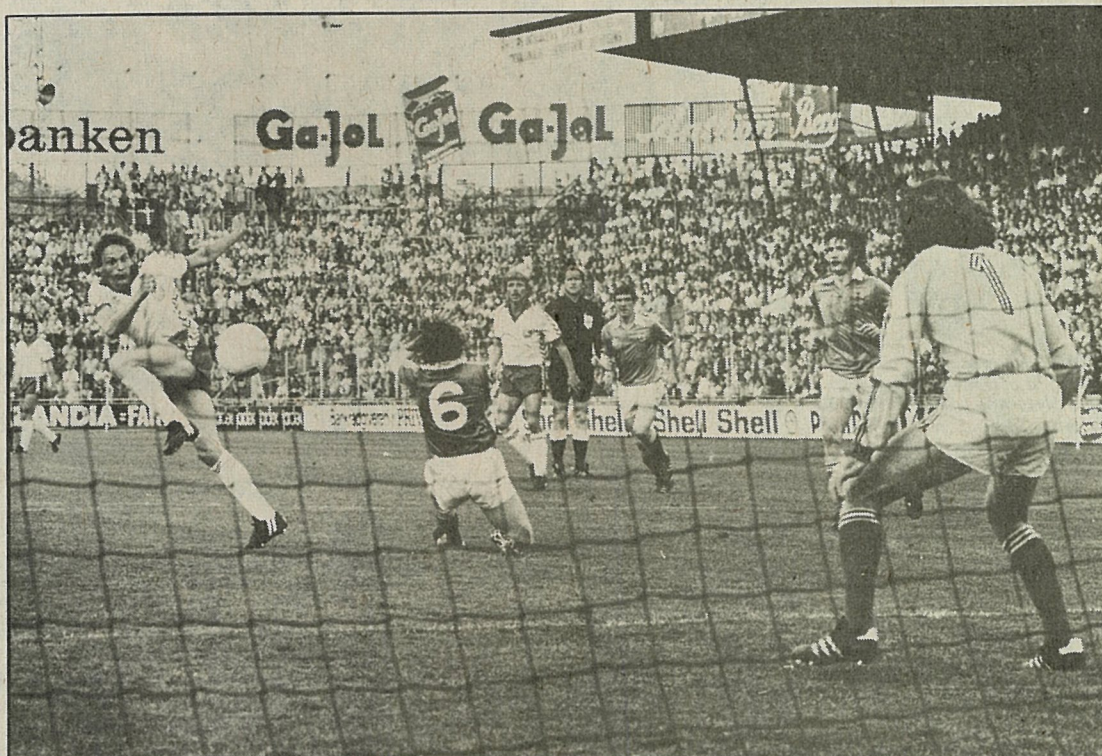
15. Johan Cruyff, George Best, Franz Beckenbauer, Kevin Keegan. Who is the odd one out and why?

16. Which Arsenal forward has been playing for Djurgarden, Sweden, this summer?

17. Have kit manufacturers Umbro or Admiral signed a five-year contract with the F.A.?

ANSWERS

1. False. He was told the League had no power to cut the fee. 2. £100,000. 3. Brian Clough's Nottingham Forest. 4. Barnsley, where he teams-up with player-manager Allan Clarke. 5. West Ham. 6. Tony Waddington. 7. Elkjaer. 8. Laura Jane. 9. Black-burn. 10. Birmingham City. 11. Chelsea. 12. Gareth Crooks. 13. Stephen. 14. Bob Wilson, the former Scotland and Arsenal goal-keeper. 15. Kevin Keegan. The others have played in the North American Soccer League. 16. Mal-colm Macdonald. 17. Admiral.



GO FOR THE DOUBLE ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (1) Hutchison. (8) Aloft. (10) Gayfield. (11) Atlas. (14) Asa. (16) Drone. (17) Strove. (19) Asks. (20) Idle. (21) Eft. (22) We. (23) End. (25) Motto. (28) Forbes. (32) Roan. (33) Tree. (34) Order. DOWN:— (1) Hughes. (2) Try Hard. (3) Haig Avenue. (4) Salad. (5) Old Trafford. (6) No. (7) St. (9) Frank. (12) Lost. (13) Session. (15) Sole. (18) Tie. (22) Waft. (24) Are. (26) Toe. (27) Tar. (29) Or. (30) Be. (31) So. Jumbled Name: ROY GREENWOOD.

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World Cup	Argentina	12.35	12.60	12.80	13.85	14.15	Scottish Cup	Glasgow Rangers	9.25	9.80	10.75	12.40	12.90
European Cup	Notts Forest	n/a	11.15	11.55	13.00	13.75	English League	Liverpool	8.80	9.25	9.65	11.80	12.25
European Cup							Scottish League	Glasgow Celtic	8.55	9.25	9.90	11.50	12.75
Winners Cup	Barcelona	10.85	11.30	11.70	12.90	13.50	N.A.S.L. Super						
U.E.F.A. Cup	Borussia						League	New York Cosmos	n/a	12.35	13.25	15.20	15.20
	M'gladbach	1.05	11.30	11.50	12.50	12.85	Spanish League	Real Madrid	9.95	10.20	10.40	11.50	11.85
English F.A. Cup	Arsenal (H)	8.55	8.90	9.95	11.40	11.75	Champions						

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EUROPEAN Championship success is not a priority in the mind of England Under-21 manager Dave Sexton (below).

The youngsters produced a fine display in their most recent group outing when they easily overcame Bulgaria by a 3-1 margin at Pernik.

That victory established them as clear favourites to qualify for the Quarter-Finals. But afterwards Sexton told me: "Performances are more important than our results."

"The Under-21 side is mainly a nursery for the senior team. It also forms part of the natural progression from the youth team through to the 'B' team and the full England side."

A major problem facing Sexton, who was supported by Arsenal coach Don Howe during this month's tour, is the fact that he cannot directly copy the system adopted by Greenwood's senior men.

He explained: "We try to do the same things and follow the same policies as the full side, but this is just not possible all of the time."

"Last year we were able to use wingers. Yet now, although the main team have players such as Coppell and Barnes, we cannot play anybody like them."



England's two-goal hero against Bulgaria, Kevin Reeves (right).

petitive element.

Indeed, the team responded to the task of qualifying in Bulgaria with an enthusiasm which belied the fact that they had just completed a long and arduous season at home.

On that occasion, the likes of midfield players Glenn Hoddle and Gary Owen, underlined their excellent creative skills. But their talent will inevitably be lost to the Under-21's when they break through the age barrier.

Ron Greenwood may enjoy the luxury of a settled side. However, Sexton must overhaul his team every year as players become too old for selection.

The Manchester United boss relishes his breaks from Old Trafford to take charge at international level. But he said: "It is impossible to have a settled side. So we cannot predict what will happen in the future."

"I don't think too far ahead. We should qualify from our group first before we start to talk about winning the competition."

The England team that doesn't need to win to succeed...

"Against the Bulgarians, for instance, we were forced to choose three centre-forwards in our front line."

"There are plenty of good strikers and midfield men available at the moment. So obviously we have to play to those strengths."

A particularly pleasing facet of the youngsters' performance in Pernik was their dangerous ability at dead-ball situations.

Sexton added: "We looked like scoring from every set-piece. The final score should have been a lot higher."

Yet despite the importance the manager attaches to grooming players towards full international status without regard for results, he also agrees that the European tournament provides a vital com-

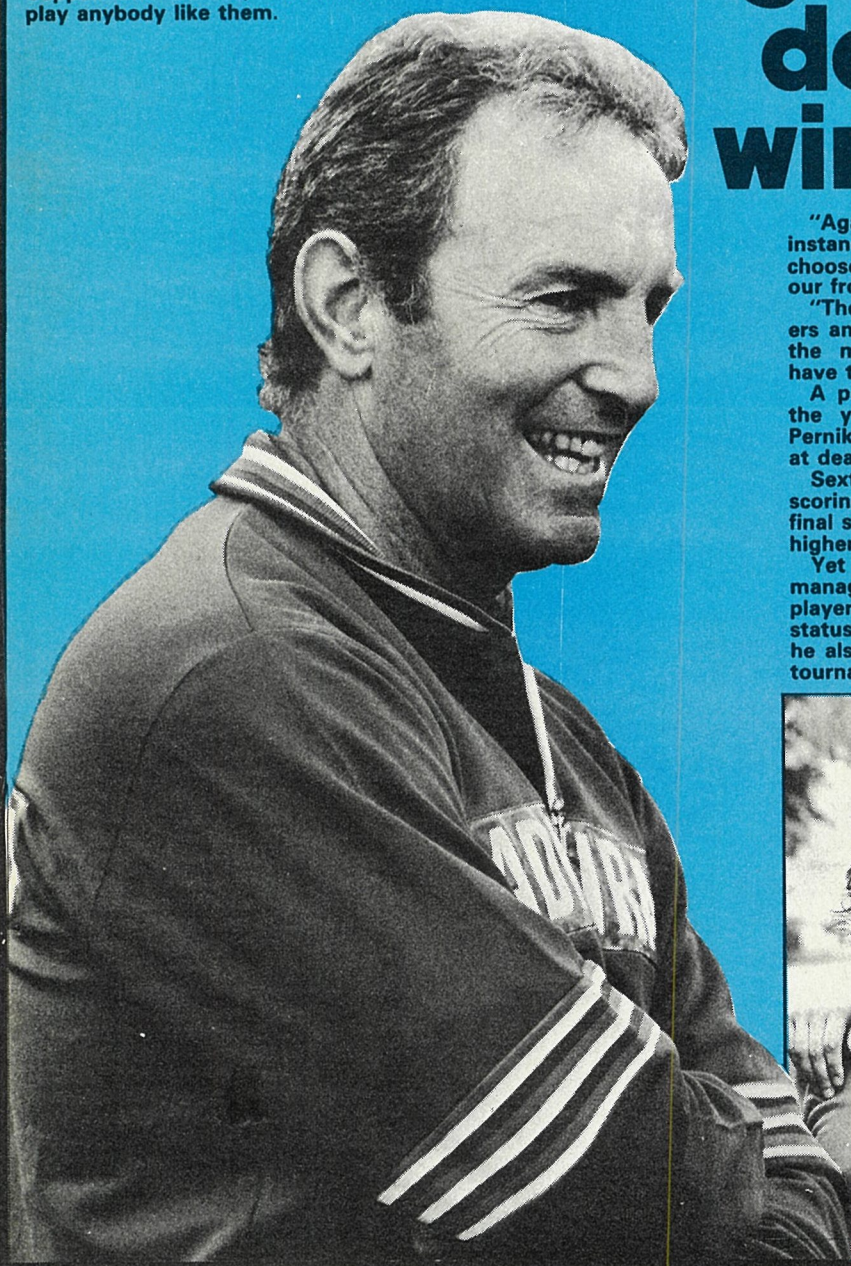
At their previous attempt England reached the Semi-Final stages of the tournament. This time the Under-21 squad appears to possess greater strength in depth.

Following their Bulgarian success the side underwent wholesale changes just a few days later and still managed to impress during a 2-1 friendly win against Sweden.

On the evidence of those European tour matches they can afford to lose some ageing players while remaining a strong threat for the Championship.

Nevertheless, Sexton will not be too worried by the outcome in terms of results.

He would rather see his young proteges gain their glory with Ron Greenwood and the full England side.



West Brom's England Under-21 quartet, Derek Statham, Gary Owen, Bryan Robson and Cyrille Regis.

COLIN TODD
Everton



SHOOT!